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## Pakistan Army deeply divided

# Wreckage of Zia's plane sent secretly to US

WASHINGTON, Sept 11. (Agencies). The wreckage of the plane, which crashed last month killing Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq, has been secretly flown to the United States, where analysts hope to trace whether the plane was downed by a bomb blast, administration officials said.

The officials, who requested anonymity, also disclosed that America's relations with Zia had soured at the time of his death because of serious policy differences.

"He was causing us a lot of problems," one administration specialist said.

Zia was the chief pillar for a US policy that used Pakistan as the entry point for rebels fighting the Soviets in occupied Afghanistan.

**Wreckage**

Zia allowed Afghan rebels to be based in his country and his government served as the conduit that funnelled US weapons to them, State Department officials said. In many instances, Zia personally supervised the operations, they said.

US intelligence sources said the wreckage of the Lockheed C-130 ferried in sections on US military transport planes, ten days ago, is being examined by Pentagon and CIA analysts and technical experts working for US defence contractors.

"Parts of the engine have been

sent back to the manufacturer. Lockheed, which makes the plane, would get parts of the fuselage," an aerospace industry source said. "It's a team effort, in other words."

A State Department spokesman declined to comment on the transfer of the wreckage, saying only that "the investigation is ongoing."

Intelligence sources said US officials are convinced the crash resulted from sabotage, possibly from a bomb concealed among 30 baskets of mangoes aboard the plane.

"His death was no accident," an administration official said.

The Washington Post, reporting sources in Pakistan, quoted today that "all but one of six Pakistani and American investigating teams that visited the crash scene... during the initial on-scene phase of the investigation have reached a 'near consensus' that a bomb blast caused the plane crash."

**Disrupt**

Pakistan, which is proud of its own intelligence capability, was reluctant to give up the wreckage of the C-130 crash, which occurred just after takeoff from Pakistan's Bahawalpur military airport on Aug 17, sources said.

A US government Middle East intelligence expert predicted that the crash "will be traced back to" the Khad, the Soviet-controlled Afghan intelligence service.

But other US intelligence officials emphasised that there still are other suspects, including dissident Pakistani military officers, members of the Shia fundamentalist movement or other civilian opponents of Zia.

US officials said divisions within the Pakistani Army run

very deep. They said there is evidence that Pakistani generals last April ordered a huge dump of weapons intended for Afghan rebels to be blown up to disrupt an audit designed to determine how many had been stolen by Army officers.

Civilian Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo had been investigating the military thefts when the explosion occurred.

Zia soon dismissed Junejo and the civilian government, a move that even outraged some military officers. Zia responded by sending the vice-chief of staff travelling around the country to try and pacify discontented brigadier generals and colonels, US officials said.

US officials also pointed out that many of Pakistan's Army officials were dissatisfied with Pakistan's on-the-ground role in Afghanistan, where Pakistani advisers were directing rebel assaults on Soviet-held towns.

"No Army likes to go and chase bandits," a Pentagon analyst said. "Morale always hits the floor when that happens."

**Barred**

Meanwhile, the State Department initially barred FBI experts from the probe of the crash, US News and World Report said yesterday.

The magazine said the Federal Bureau of Investigation was furious over the department's action.

"Right after the crash, the State Department allowed Air Force technical advisers to help with the wreckage but, according to FBI officials, denied permission to FBI counter-terrorism specialists, who are trained to preserve evidence," the report said.

## Tidal wave adds misery to Bangladesh Thousands of sick people overwhelm hospitals

DHAKA, Sept 11. (Agencies). Thousands of people sick from drinking contaminated water or eating rotten food overwhelmed hospitals in Bangladesh and fresh rains inundated new areas as the UN pressed forward with a relief programme.

At least 900 people have died in the floods and 25 million made homeless, according to official statistics. Unofficial sources put at 1,600 the death toll from floods, disease and snakebites.

**Treatment**

Health workers said nearly 26,000 people reported for treatment at hospitals yesterday, bringing their number to nearly 200,000 in less than three weeks. At least 150 of the deaths have been attributed to diarrhoeal diseases.

A tidal wave swept at least 30 people to their death and flattened 500 houses yesterday.

Officials said the five-foot (1.5 metre) wave also drowned a large number of cattle in the southeastern town of Noakhali and neighbouring districts.

"This was possibly the last slap of the monsoon," a Dhaka weather office spokesman said. "From tomorrow floodwater is

expected to start receding fast and rainfall will be less after the solar eclipse today."

The Dhaka flood control centre said that rains in Bangladesh and India have worsened the flooding.

In the adjacent Indian state of Assam, many areas were inundated, the United News of India news agency reported.

**Relief**

The Assam government has asked the federal government of India for Rs 764 million (\$55 million) for flood relief operations, the news agency said.

The floods were caused by rising waters in the Brahmaputra and Ganges rivers, which flow from the Himalayas through India and Bangladesh to the Bay of Bengal.

In Dhaka, officials who spoke on condition of anonymity said new floods had occurred in 12 of the 64 districts in Bangladesh, where the waters had begun to recede earlier in the week.

Preliminary estimates show the floods have washed away at least three million tonnes of rice, 3,500 km (2,200 miles) of roads and 250 bridges.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Musavi seeks Majlis' support

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Sept 11. (AP). Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi warned Parliament today that a vote of no-confidence in his government will cause major problems as the country embarks on the massive task of post-war reconstruction.

Musavi, addressing the 270-member parliament, stressed his 21-man cabinet, stressed: "For the sake of the country... we must all try to be flexible."

Tehran Radio, broadcast Musavi's speech at the start of a day-long debate on the govern-

ment he announced last July after parliamentary elections in April and May.

Musavi warned that if his ministers do not win a vote of confidence "their offices will remain virtually vacant" until presidential elections scheduled for next year.

The radio reported a lively debate in the Majlis, or Parliament. It said some deputies voiced opposition to Musavi and his policies, which have come under criticism by conservative rivals recently.



Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iakovu (left) embraces Yugoslav Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar at the end of the meeting of non-aligned ministers in Nicosia. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Yugoslavia to host summit

# Non-aligned states manage to avert split

NICOSIA, Sept 11. (Reuters). The Non-Aligned Movement is set on a higher role in international affairs but seems unsure over ways of finding an effective niche on the world stage.

"We know what we want to do," said one diplomat during a foreign ministers' conference in Nicosia. "But we haven't got anywhere near agreeing on how to do it."

At the end of the four-day meeting, the non-aligned ministers promised to help the world's "have-nots" and managed to avert a split over regional conflicts and disputes.

But several delegations criticised the voluminous reiteration of principles. To head off a crisis of confidence, the minister issued a "Nicosia declaration" saying the movement should streamline procedures and initiate change.

**Angered**

They also resolved the issue of which member-state will host the 1989 summit and take on the three-year chairmanship after a delay that angered many delegates.

Yugoslavia was chosen after formal candidates Nicaragua and Indonesia failed to win enough support.

The issue delayed the start of the final session yesterday while Belgrade considered whether it could accept without a stamp of approval from the Yugoslav federation.

Highlights of the final statement included:

- Middle East: Ministers deplored Israel's "iron fist" policy in suppressing the 10-month Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and called for UN super-

vision of the Israeli-ruled territories.

- South Africa: The document lashed out at Pretoria's apartheid policy and its role in Namibia.
- Afghanistan: Ministers called for a comprehensive peace settlement and the return of refugees to their homes.
- Western Sahara: Ministers accepted a call for direct talks between Morocco and the Algerian-backed Polisario Front despite opposition from the Moroccan delegation.
- Kampuchea: The conference reaffirmed the role of the movement in supporting regional peace efforts.
- Disasters: The statement appealed for aid for flood victims and reconstruction in Sudan and Bangladesh.
- Hostages: Ministers appealed for the immediate release of all hostages and abducted people, wherever they were held.
- Debt: The conference urged debtor and creditor countries and banks to solve the debt crisis.

A theme running through several speeches and working papers was how the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement could rise to the challenge of super-power rapprochement.

"Our movement cannot afford to be on the sidelines," said an Egyptian document setting out ideas on the movement's role.

Several speakers slammed the paperwork. Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdelatif Filali criticised the "long, turgid documents that are forgotten as soon as the meeting is finished."

dealings with the PLO because "all their existence, views, mood are directed at the elimination of Israel. They don't want peace with us."

"The PLO should not be mentioned and not be included," he said.

But Rabin did not rule out talking to the PLO if it dropped a charter that calls for Israel's destruction.

Rabin was quoted as saying Palestinian negotiators must renounce terror and accept UN resolutions 242 and 338 which call for the recognition of Israel and a land-for-peace compromise.

## Denies

Asked if he would be ready to talk to PLO under such conditions, Rabin said he was ready to negotiate with "those who will step forward and accept these terms."

Minister without portfolio Ezer Weizman said: "I say talking with the PLO is better than looking for moderate Palestinians."

He added: "We are ready for a dialogue and negotiations (with the PLO) — and I am speaking for the Labour Party — but at the

## Gulf peace talks remain stalled

GENEVA, Sept 11. (Agencies). In the peace talks between Iran and Iraq today, prospects were uncertain as to whether the two sides would agree to a recess or to move the talks to New York.

The foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq met yesterday for their first direct peace talks in more than two weeks.

But talks were halted after less than four hours, suggesting an impasse over Iraq's refusal to move the negotiations to New York and over Iran's support of a recess and change of location.

Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz led the Iraqi delegation to the meeting at the UN office in Geneva. The Iranians, headed by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, arrived less than five minutes later.

## Agreed

Yesterday's session was the first direct session at ministerial level since the second day of talks on Aug 26.

Shortly before midnight, the UN mediator Jan Eliasson told reporters that proceedings had been suspended for the night and that "consultations" would continue today.

Eliasson refused to go into detail or answer any questions, saying that he had agreed with Velayati and Aziz to "refrain from all comment at this stage."

A UN-sponsored ceasefire took effect on Aug 20, clearing the way for talks on a lasting settlement of the nearly eight-year-old Gulf war.

## Suspend

Earlier yesterday, an Iraqi official was quoted as saying Baghdad refused to suspend negotiations and move them to New York.

Saadoun Hammadi, Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, was quoted in a newspaper interview as spelling out his side's position, which clashes with Tehran's willingness to consider a break and shift of venue.

In the interview published yesterday in the Abu Dhabi daily Al Itihad, Hammadi said the talks are passing through a difficult stage and accused Iran of trying to scuttle them from the start.

Among Iran's priorities at the talks are a withdrawal of troops to internationally recognised boundaries, exchange of war prisoners and a UN investigation to determine who started the war.

A long-standing dispute concerns a 1975 treaty setting the Iran-Iraq boundary down the middle of the Shatt Al Arab waterway. Iraq has renounced the pact and claimed the entire waterway, but Iran says it still considers the treaty valid.

The waterway has been blocked by sunken ships and silt nearly since the start of the war in Sept 1980.

terms we set when Abu Ammar (PLO chief Yasser Arafat) changes the Palestinian charter."

He was referring to the PLO charter which denies Israel's right to exist and pledges to destroy the Jewish state.

On reports that the PLO was preparing to declare a provisional government, Weizman said it was unimportant. "I prefer a Palestinian leadership to conduct a dialogue with me to solve the problem together," he said.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, was quoted by the daily Yediot Ahronot as saying there were "elements in the PLO" who were seeking peace, but they were opposed by hardliners.

Asked about Israeli talks with the PLO, Peres said he was "not ready to give an answer that would amount to giving credibility."

Meanwhile the spiritual leader of a growing Islamic movement in the occupied territories said yesterday his group would negotiate with Israel if the Jewish state recognised Palestinian rights.

He added: "We are ready for a dialogue and negotiations (with the PLO) — and I am speaking for the Labour Party — but at the

(Continued on Page 2)

## Senate action denounced

# Iraqis demonstrate outside US embassy

BAGHDAD, Sept 11. (AP). Tens of thousands of Iraqis marched past the American embassy today to denounce the US Senate's vote to impose sanctions against their country for using chemical weapons.

The officially organised march coincided with the fiercest Iraqi criticism of the United States since relations, broken by Iraq after the 1967 Middle East war, were restored in 1984.

"Long live Saddam Hussein," the crowds chanted in Arabic as they marched past the thick embassy walls.

"USA, shame, shame," they added in English, prompted by members of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party who stood on top of a platform opposite the embassy and exhorted the crowd with loudspeakers.

## Dignity

"We have our country to defend. We have our dignity to defend. No one whatsoever will make us bow or make us walk the way they want," said a man who identified himself only as Sami, addressing the marchers.

In a related development, INA reported that 11,517 Kurds had accepted the Iraqi government's offer of an amnesty for supporting Iran in the Gulf war and any other actions taken against the government.

The report, quoting unidentified officials, said Kurds were "pouring through the gates of the borders."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said in a statement today that the US Senate "aims to divert the attention of the international media from the uprising in the occupied territories."

Saddam said that the fighting with the "insurgents" lasted at most two days and no serious battles were involved. He

reiterated charges that the tens of thousands of Kurds who fled across the border had been forced by the Kurdish rebels, seeking publicity for their cause.

Kurdish rebels have said that as many as 60,000 Iraqi troops attacked their positions in the northern mountains following the Aug 20 ceasefire with Iran in the eight-year Gulf war. The rebels of the Kurdish Democratic Party said that 2,000 Kurdish civilians were killed and 5,000 wounded, many in chemical weapon attacks.

The marchers, carrying banners in Arabic and English, filed past the embassy at a rate of up to 10,000 an hour, and officials said the procession would continue into the night.

Brought in from all over the city of 4.5 million, they dispersed a few kilometres from the heavily guarded embassy. There was extensive security all along the parade route.

## Threat

The crowd was orderly, even cheerful, and there was no apparent threat to the embassy. One ranking US diplomat stood on the sidewalk a few feet from the march and watched it move by.

The US Senate voted on Friday to demand economic sanctions against Iraq after Secretary of State George Shultz declared on Thursday that Iraq had used chemical weapons, outlawed under a 1925 Geneva treaty, against its northern Kurdish population.

The measure, still before the US House of Representatives, would have to be signed by President Reagan before taking effect. It was designed to make it difficult for Iraq to obtain international credit to pay off its estimated \$60 billion war debt.

## Call for Arabs and Iranians to unite to fight Israel

TUNIS, Sept 11. (Reuters). Syria said today an end to the Gulf conflict should enable Arabs and Iranians redirect their energies against Israel.

"The Arab-Israeli struggle is the priority... because Israel has no greater interest than to waste our energies in peripheral battles and artificial conflicts," Syrian Ambassador Ahmed Issa said at the start of a two-day meeting of the Arab League council.

## Uprising

He was speaking on behalf of Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al-Sharaa, outgoing chairman of the council, which is discussing the Gulf conflict between Iran and Iraq and the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

The council groups the foreign ministers of the 21-member League but only two ministers, from Somalia, the new chairman, and Tunisia, were present at the opening session.

Issa said the Arabs should also exploit the detente between the superpowers to advance the Arab cause.

"We must beware of the plans of the enemy, which will be thinking along the same lines and for the same ends," he added.

Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klihi said Iran's decision to accept United Nations Resolution 598 on the Gulf war was a great victory for Iraq.

## Determination

But during the UN-sponsored negotiations, both sides should enjoy equal opportunities and facilities, he added.

On the Palestinian uprising, he said it had shown Israel it could not break the determination of the Palestinian people.

"A state of division and factionalism has appeared inside the Zionist entity. People of influence have begun to say, either that Israel cannot hope to retain the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, or that Israel must negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation," he added.

● Somalia took over the chairmanship of the Arab League council from Syria at the start of the meeting today.

## Blast in Kabul kills 10

MOSCOW, Sept 11. (Reuters). A car bomb in a busy street of the Afghan capital Kabul today killed 10 people and injured 40 according to preliminary estimates, the Soviet news agency Tass reported.

It said women and children were among the victims of the blast, which caused serious damage to many buildings in the area, setting some on fire.

Afghan guerrillas seeking the overthrow of the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah have stepped up attacks in the capital in recent months.

Tass, in a report from Kabul, said today's explosion was a "crime prepared and committed by Afghan extremists."

## DAY BY DAY

A SENSE of logic cannot justify the actions of the Kuwaiti Bourse management in fixing the maximum limit prices of shares can rise and simultaneously keeping the door wide open for a price fall with no bottom in sight.

This decision is indeed unrealistic and oppressive. It is tantamount to faulty directives adversely affecting business. Such illogical counterproductive measures have never before been witnessed in stock exchanges the world over.

Where, may we ask, are the decisions taken by the bourse administration three months ago regarding price units and flexibility? Again, where did the concept of limiting share prices in our Kuwaiti Bourse originate? In which stock market is this dictate applied?

This decision contributes only to bringing unwanted pressure on the workings of the stock market and its investors.

It is illogical to prohibit increases in prices fearing that they might go down again and simultaneously not be concerned about a drop in prices — especially when the drop is abnormally accelerated due to ill-conceived measures.

Apparently, the previous philosophy still dominates the workings of the Kuwaiti Stock Exchange.

Zahed Matar

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**اگر کوئی تحقیقات**

○ سارے پاکستان کی تحقیقات

○ برما میں عام انتخابات کا اعلان

○ عراق ایران مذاکرات میں قفل

○ پاکستان میں افراط زر میں اضافہ

○ کابل میں کار بم کا زبردست دھماکہ

○ چلی میں بایں بازو کا پہلا مظاہرہ

○ سیل اوپننگ خصوصی مضمون، مکتوب پاکستان اور پوشیدگی

**WEATHER**

DUST will rise gradually caused by moderate to fresh north-westerly wind.

State of sea: rough

High water: 12.00 noon

Low water: 7.00 am, 7.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.31 am

Sunset: 5.57 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 42°C 108°F

Ahmed: 39°C 102°F

Falaka: 38°C 100°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 42°C 108°F

Ahmed: 39°C 102°F

Falaka: 38°C 100°F

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 35 per cent

Ahmed: 37 per cent

Falaka: 40 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 32 per cent

Ahmed: 34 per cent

Falaka: 37 per cent

## INTERNATIONAL

## Dukakis accuses Bush aides of working for foreign government

BOSTON, Sept. 11, (Reuters): Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis yesterday attacked Vice-President George Bush for choosing three campaign aides who were hired by the Bahamas to defuse US criticism of its drug policies.

Continuing to escalate his battle with the vice-president, Dukakis released copies of a memo from the consulting firm run by three key aides and said his own government would not employ aides with "divided loyalties."

The aides run a Washington firm that was paid \$800,000 by the Bahamas to improve its standing in Washington — particularly with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

"In a Dukakis White House, there will be no back doors for foreign lobbyists," Dukakis told a news conference.

### Interest

"There will be no opportunity for anyone to represent that they can lock our government on a path that will lead in the direction of another government's interest," Dukakis charged in releasing a memo from the firm of Black, Manafort and Stone to the government of the Bahamas.

Charles Black, Paul Manafort and Roger Stone work as key advisers to the Republican campaign and Stone was recently named co-chairman of Bush's efforts in California.

"My staff will not have divided loyalties," the Massachusetts governor said. "In a Dukakis White House the staff will pledge allegiance to only one flag — old glory."

The Republicans have criticised Dukakis for his 1977 veto of a measure that would have required teachers to lead their students in the pledge of allegiance in comments widely regarded as an attack on



Dukakis

Dukakis's patriotism. Dukakis told reporters that the "American people have the right to know that the back door of the White House will not be the front door for paid agents of foreign governments."

The memo says political critics "have been sowing the seeds that the government of the Bahamas is a nation for sale involving drug czars to use the banking system, that government officials are participating in the drug trafficking."

News reports about the firm's contract with the Bahamas first surfaced three years ago, but Democrats have tried to resurrect the issue because of the stature of the firm's officials in the Bush campaign.

## Miss America

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Sept. 11, (AP): Miss Minnesota Gretchen Elizabeth Carlson, a self-assured performer who wants to be a Harvard-trained lawyer, yesterday became the first classical violinist to win the Miss America crown.

Miss Carlson erupted in tears as her name was announced. She laughed and cried as she took her victory walk along the runway at Convention Hall.

The first runner-up was Miss Colorado Maya Walker, 23.

Miss Carlson, 22, is a senior at the prestigious Stanford University in California, majoring in organisational behaviour. As part of her studies, she spent a semester at Oxford University in England. She plans to attend Harvard law school.

## Women ululate as Pontiff arrives in Harare

# Pope raps racial discrimination

HARARE, Sept. 11, (Reuters): Pope John Paul II led 150,000 singing, swaying people in a cheerful, uniquely African mass in Harare today and called for reconciliation in Zimbabwe to end the sins of racial and tribal discrimination.

Bands played kudu horns, drums and rattles, women ululated and children in white danced and waved yellow papal flags as the Pope arrived for the mass, first of his nine-day Southern African tour, at a racecourse in Harare's posh northern suburbs.

The Pope was cheered as he toured the racecourse under bright sunshine in a bullet-proof popemobile made from a converted truck and then passed through the crowd on his way to an altar backed by palm fronds and decorated with yellow flowers.

Dressed in pale green vestments and a yellow and white mitre, he was preceded to the altar by laughing, dancing children and women, to a background of the rhythmic African music and ululation which accompanied the entire mass.

The Pope clearly enjoyed the African flavour of the occasion, the biggest crowd ever assembled in Zimbabwe, and smiled happily as he blessed the throng.

### Message

He was cheered when he said "God bless all of you" in the local Shona language. At the end of the mass he thanked the crowd for "your wonderful songs."

But his message was a serious one. In the homily he spoke of those who had died during the war against white rule and in conflict since, mentioning by name Bishop Adolph Schmitt, killed in an ambush on a remote road in 1976.

"Your own country has known only too well the pain and suffering caused by sins such as racial discrimination and

segregation, which deny the human dignity and full equality of other peoples simply because of the colour of their skin or because of the tribe to which they belong."

He also spoke of greed and lust for power, dishonesty and selfishness. "These are sins which work against the harmonious and full development of your nation."

On Monday the Pope will travel to Bulawayo, capital of Matabeleland, where scattered groups of rebels from the majority Ndebele tribe have recently accepted a government amnesty to end five years of attacks and killings.

The Pope said Zimbabweans "have known the horrors of hatred and violence. They hunger for justice and peace. They desire reconciliation and harmony among the tribes and races."

Earlier, in an address to Zimbabwe's bishops, the Pope paid tribute to the church's role during the guerrilla war, saying it gave refuge to the persecuted, wounded, hungry and homeless. It was now teaching the importance of reconciliation.

But he also mentioned difficulties over Catholic education and stressed the right of parents to choose schools for their children according to their moral and religious principles.

Before the mass three women presented the Pope with gifts including a clay pot of water, traditional present for an important visitor, which one of them carried on her head to the altar.

The mass was watched from VIP stands usually reserved for rich punters and race horse owners by several members of the government including President Robert Mugabe, a Marxist, who gazed through powerful binoculars, and his wife Sally.



Pope John Paul II meets President Mugabe (left) of Zimbabwe at the State House in Harare. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Gemayel calls Lebanon a hijacked airliner

CAIRO, Sept. 11, (Reuters): Lebanese President Amin Gemayel called his strife-torn country "a hijacked airliner" in remarks published today and deplored a lack of world interest in its problems.

"Lebanon is a hijacked airliner and all passengers are threatened," he said in an interview with Cairo's Al-Ahram newspaper.

Gemayel said he was disappointed that the Lebanese question now received little international interest as the focus shifted to the Iran-Iraq peace talks, Afghanistan and Angola.

Lebanon is on the verge of an abyss. It cannot wait any longer. Perhaps it will be lost when its turn comes," he said.

Deprived Gemayel is due to step down as President on Sept. 23 but the Lebanese Parliament has failed so far to choose a successor. Many Christian deputies boycotted the previous session to block the appointment of Syrian-backed front-runner Suleiman Franjieh.

"Unfortunately, the Lebanese are deprived of their own will. Direct foreign pressures from beyond the borders have often been translated into explosions and assassinations and the

Lebanese are scared from these interventions," Gemayel added. He cited as reasons the presence of foreign troops from Israel, Iran, Libya, Syria and Palestinians in different parts of the country.

"How can the Lebanese start a free and easy dialogue? How can someone from the Israeli-occupied south extend a hand for other parts of the country?" he asked.

Gemayel said a solution to his country's problems needed help from other Arab countries, notably Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Despite the US election campaign, he hoped that a dialogue involving Damascus and Washington on Lebanon would bear fruit.

"It seems these contacts are still continuing and we hope they will succeed... We are looking for a normalisation of ties with Syria, which the United States is seeking," he said.

### Computer-dating

MOSCOW, Sept. 11, (Reuters): A computer-dating agency has been established in Moscow and 100 lonely men and women have already signed up to find partners, Tass said today.

## Pilot borrows from passengers to pay for fuel

LONDON, Sept. 11, (Reuters): An airline pilot had to borrow from passengers to pay for fuel to get home when officials at an Atlantic island airport refused to accept his credit card.

British Airways (BA) said the mix-up, which occurred eight days ago, involved a flight from Funchal, the capital of Madeira, to London's Gatwick airport.

As planned, the plane landed at the neighbouring island of Porto Santo to fill up after the tricky take-off from Funchal airport without a full load of fuel.

Officials, expecting a Gibraltar Airways plane, became suspicious when the BA-owned Caledonian Airways airliner being used for the flight showed up and they would not accept the pilot's aviation industry credit card used to pay for fuel.

To save time the pilot asked his 100 passengers to stump up to help pay the £1,200 (\$2,600) bill.

## Israeli leaders differ on talks with PLO

(Continued from Page 1)

Gaza's Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, leader of the Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, also attacked the PLO for taking credit for a nine-month-old uprising which he said was launched by Muslim groups.

Interviewed on Israel television's Arabic-language service, Yassin said: "First, Israel has to say what it is willing to give the Palestinians, then we shall see (about negotiations). If Israel recognises Palestinian rights, there will be talk."

His statement appeared to soften previous hardline positions concerning Israel.

Israeli political observers said Yassin may have moderated his statements in speaking to the state-owned television to send a message to the Israeli leadership that he should be considered in any talks between the government and Palestinians.

Rabin has also said Israel faces a growing chance of war in the coming year at a time when a Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip is placing heavy demands on the army.

### Escapes

BERLIN, Sept. 11, (AP): Two East German men fled their communist homeland to the West, but three others were caught in separate attempts to scale heavily guarded border barriers, police said today.

Border police in Munich reported today that a 25-year-old East German student fled to the West German state of Bavaria by crossing the Czechoslovak border. No other details were released.

## Thousands of sick people overwhelm hospitals

(Continued from Page 1)

Nine years ago, the Bangladesh government and the World Bank issued a report predicting a flood in 1988-89 inundating at least 70 per cent of the country.

The government was also advised to install small structures and ensure adequate water supplies, but there has apparently been no systematic flood control strategy since.

"The deluge this year had been predicted but not its magnitude," one official said.

Bangladesh has been flooded 26 times in the past 40 years, at least five times on a large scale, according to official records.

A UN expert said floods in the region had been exacerbated by deforestation and soil erosion in the Himalayas and by removal of natural barriers.

"It is to a large extent man-made," said Tom Elkan of the Rome-based International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The United Nations yesterday appointed the chief of its Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) as co-ordinator of relief operations.

Hameed Essaifi is an acknowledged expert on Bangladesh. He visited the country last September after monsoon floods killed 1,600 people and destroyed 3.4 million tonnes of rice, the population's main staple.

Bangladesh has received pledges of \$221 million in aid for flood victims, including \$150 million from the United States.

Officials said the relief supplies would start arriving in bulk from tomorrow and would be sent to the worst-hit areas.

## PLO set to declare independence

ABU DHABI, Sept. 11, (UPI): The PLO, seeking to preserve a fragile unity between moderate and radical factions, appears set to declare a Palestinian independent state with only an implicit recognition of Israel, Palestinian sources said today.

The future state will be established in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to fill a political vacuum left by Jordan's King Hussein's surprise decision to break all administrative and legal links with the territories.

The declaration of an independent state in the occupied territories and the setting up of a provisional government, probably headquartered in Baghdad, Iraq, have already been agreed to by the PLO, Palestinian officials said.

A PLO official said setting up a Palestinian state in the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 war, means a "de facto" recognition of Israel.

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## Bld to end Tamil conflict

# Sri Lanka merges two provinces

COLOMBO, Sept 11, (Reuters): Sri Lanka has merged its Northern and Eastern Provinces under a pact with India to end the island's five-year-old ethnic conflict, a senior cabinet minister said today.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulthumudali said President Junius Jayewardene signed the gazette notification on Friday. It was effective from Friday midnight.

An Indian high commission spokesman said the merger of the two areas, where about 52,000 Indian soldiers are bunting down Tamil rebels, was stipulated under an accord signed with

India in July 1987 to end the separatist war.

Athulthumudali said the merger paves the way for holding elections for a semi-autonomous provincial council in the two provinces.

"He (Jayewardene) is going to fix the date very soon," Athulthumudali said.

Both the merger and elections are stipulated in the pact to end violence between minority Tamils, who live mostly in the two provinces, and majority Sinhalese.

Tamils complaining of discrimination by the government have demanded a separate state in the north, where they

predominate, and the east, where they are a sizeable minority.

"It's wonderful. The move is an implementation of the Indian-Sri Lankan pact and we hope the Tamils would be happy," an Indian diplomat said.

The Sri Lankan government was also expected shortly to free 500 to 600 Tamil detainees, sources said.

All the island's Tamil separatist groups accepted the accord apart from the most powerful, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Following the signing of the agreement tens of thousands of Indian troops were posted in the

north and east to disarm the Tigers, who have pressed ahead with their armed campaign.

Jayewardene's reported move follows the destruction by Indian soldiers two weeks ago of a major Tiger base in the northeastern jungles.

Indian military officials said the operation broke the back of the Tigers and should pave the way for provincial council elections.

The elections, which have been held in the island's remaining seven provinces, had been postponed until Indian soldiers managed to restore law and order.

Military sources said, meanwhile, about 20 Tamil guerrillas armed with swords hacked to death seven villagers, including five children, in an eastern Sri Lankan village.

All the casualties were Sinhalese, the sources said.

They said the attackers, most of whom were dressed in fatigues, barged into buses yesterday at Subadagama and attacked residents. Five people were injured.

"The children were sleeping and dragged out from their mats and cut with swords," one policeman said. The village was the scene of a similar attack three years ago.

## Malaria reaches epidemic proportions in Khartoum

KHARTOUM, Sept 11, (UPI): Malaria reached epidemic proportions in the flood-hit Sudanese capital with 21 deaths in the past few days, health officials said today. In some areas, up to 17 per cent of all residents may have the disease.

A daily report from the emergency health committee set up to monitor illness in the wake of the torrential rains which triggered the crisis five weeks ago, said 17 of the deaths were from two badly-hit neighbourhoods in north Khartoum alone.

**Spray**  
Nine people died in Shambat and a further eight in nearby Halfaya because of a massive increase in the numbers of Malaria-carrying mosquitoes caused by standing, open water in which the insects breed.

The committee said it would implement an emergency plan for large-scale spraying of affected areas from the air.

It stated that the dimensions of the disease were revealed by a survey in the Shambat area which suggested 17 per cent of all residents were carrying the malaria, an infection of the red corpuscles of the blood, need not be dangerous if treated early but failure to recognise or deal with it quickly leads to inflammation of the brain (cerebral malaria). High fever and death often follow.

The deaths take the number of people who have perished in the current Sudanese flood crisis to more than 90. About 250 were injured.

**Howe**  
An estimated 5 million people countrywide were left destitute and homeless by the Aug 4 deluge and subsequent river flooding which flattened houses, washed out bridges, submerged farmland and islands in the Nile rivers and disrupted all communications.

Meanwhile, British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe arrived in Khartoum late Saturday for a two-day visit to look at conditions for himself.

Howe told reporters on arrival in the Sudanese capital he wanted to assess needs and then discuss further British aid to Sudan with senior Sudanese officials, including Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi.

Relations between the two countries dipped in late August after the Sudanese information minister savagely attacked the limited scale of British and other non-Arab emergency aid to Sudan. Britain protested the remarks.

**Patch up**  
But Sadiq moved quickly to patch up the row, saying Sudan was grateful for the emergency tents, food, medical and other relief supplies flown into Khartoum by Arab and Western governments alike.



Supporters of Marcos celebrate his 71st birthday.

## Marcos' birthday celebrated

LAOAG, Philippines, Sept 11, (Reuters): Supporters of deposed Philippine leader Ferdinand Marcos unveiled a 30-foot-high (nine-metre) cake today to mark the exiled former President's 71st birthday.

Meanwhile, the body of his elderly mother, still not buried 13 days after her death, lay displayed in a coffin in the front parlour of an old Marcos family house in a town near Laoag in the north.

The sponge cake with marshmallow icing and the body that his supporters say they will not bury until Marcos returns symbolises how some people still feel in the nation which in 1986 threw him out in a revolt.

### Rally

But only a few dozen people showed up to blow out the cake's 71 candles at a "birthday party" today evening billed by die-hard Marcos supporters as a major festival.

"You can't say the people will just forget him. He can be gone 20 years, but the sentiment for him is still there," said Rodolfo Farinas, Governor of Ilocos Norte, Marcos' home province 250 miles (400 km) north of Manila.

But although a Marcos sympathiser Farinas objected to the cake, saying it would achieve nothing.

In Manila about 3,000 Marcos supporters sang "Happy birthday" in a rally. They also burned a yellow dress symbolic of President Corason Aquino.

### Thanked

In a radio broadcast from Hawaii aired on a private Manila radio station, Marcos thanked supporters for their birthday wishes and vowed to return home.

Aquino has barred him from returning from exile in Hawaii to defend himself against charges he stole billions of dollars, saying he is a threat to security.

The military had been placed on full alert based on intelligence reports that Marcos forces were planning anti-government activities.

But armed forces spokesman Col. Oscar Florendo said of the Marcos loyalists, "They are only making a lot of noise."

## PNC meeting may be delayed: Hawatmeh

DAMASCUS, Sept 11, (Reuters): A top-level meeting due to consider forming a provisional Palestinian government could be delayed if current talks to unite opposing factions fail, a radical Palestinian leader said today.

"We should not make haste in taking decisions that might undermine the unity of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which we achieved after five years of intensive work," said Nayef Hawatmeh, head of the Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

The Palestine National Council (PNC), or Parliament-in-exile, is due to meet in Algiers early next month. But Hawatmeh said it could be postponed unless various factions could agree on the next moves.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat said last week the meeting would consider many options but the proclamation of a provisional government was his choice. He said a dialogue with dissident pro-Syrian Palestinian factions would reopen.

Hawatmeh said those talks.

### Rewards abolished

## Chinese efforts for reunification

BEIJING, Sept 11, (UPI): China ended today a 26-year system of offering rewards to military defectors from Nationalist-controlled Taiwan amid reports senior leader Deng Xiaoping is seeking fresh initiatives toward reunification with the offshore island.

Since Deng returned to Beijing late last month from his summer vacation, he has mobilised officials responsible for working on reunification with the island province, Chinese sources said.

**Impatient**  
Taiwan has been ruled by the Kuomintang (Nationalists) since Chiang Kai-Shek fled after being defeated by the communist armies in 1949.

Deng, who turned 84 last month, has become increasingly impatient for real progress toward ending more than four decades of separate rule over the

which began in Tunis and Tripoli at the initiative of Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi, had failed to reach agreement and would continue for the next few days.

"We believe the dialogue should take its time until we reach consensus on a joint political decision on our next moves, because holding the (PNC) session without this would lead to further disunity among the PLO," he said in an interview.

He also rejected the formation of an independent provisional government, saying it should represent all PLO guerrilla groups.

"One side wants it be formed from independent persons not representing the resistance factions, to be accepted by the West. The other side believes that such a government should be derived from the PLO and follow the organisation's charter," Hawatmeh said.

He said Washington wanted the PLO to recognise Israel's right to exist and end the armed struggle but gave Palestinians no guarantees in return.

### Rewards abolished

The system of rewards for military personnel from Taiwan who defect to China's mainland has been abolished, the official Xinhua news agency quoted a People's Liberation Army (PLA) official in the coastal province of Fujian as saying.

The system introduced in 1962 "at a time of tense confrontation across the Taiwan Straits," had induced "several hundred" Kuomintang soldiers to defect, Xinhua said.

But the PLA spokesman said the latest move was "aimed at creating a more peaceful environment for improving relations between the two sides." Hundreds of soldiers as well as several Taiwan Air Force pilots have fled to China, including two majors who defected in the early 1980s and received 650,000 yuan (\$175,675) as a reward.

## Soviet-China ties will not hurt US: Carlucci

HONG KONG, Sept 11, (UPI): Improved relations between the Soviet Union and China is not likely to threaten the security of the United States and the West, US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said today.

"I would expect that the dialogue between (the Soviet Union and China) will continue," Carlucci said in an address to the Young Presidents' Organisation in Hong Kong.

"But I doubt that they would return to the kind of relationship that existed in the 1950s," he said, referring to an era when the two communist giants were united in their stand against the West.

### Useful

His comments came at the end of a week-long trip to China where he discussed American concerns over Chinese missile sales to Middle East nations such as Iran. Carlucci said he was "fully satisfied" that China would exercise prudence in arms sales.

Carlucci said there was a "clear meeting of the minds" in his discussions with Chinese defence officials, especially concerning the Vietnamese withdrawal of its troops from Kampuchea and the situation in Afghanistan.

"The Chinese are now seeing us in terms far broader than just a

source of technology for their modernisation programme," Carlucci said.

In his speech, Carlucci said the US will continue stationing its armed forces abroad because of its dependence on other nations for oil and raw materials.

"The United States ... must continue its forward deployment of forces in Asia and the Pacific region. There is no cheaper way to preserve American security," he said.

The Soviet threat has not abated despite reform policies instituted by Mikhail Gorbachev, Carlucci said. He noted that Moscow has added four new divisions and increased its Pacific fleet by 40 ships since Gorbachev took power in 1985.

### Expenditure

He said Japan and South Korea should do more in the defence of the Pacific region. "I have found my colleagues in Japan and Korea very receptive to a private dialogue on this issue, but like any one else they react poorly to public lectures and punitive action by the US Congress," Carlucci said.

Carlucci said Japan was increasing its military spending, but only for defence. He said if Japan spent more than one per cent of its gross national product on defence, many of its neighbours would become "nervous."

## Reward for Sri Lankan workers

COLOMBO, Sept 11, (KUNA): The Colombo government announced today that it will reward all Sri Lankan workers completing two years of employment in any Middle East country with a special allowance of 20,000 rupees (\$660).

The announcement said those workers who take up employment through the state-run Foreign Employment Bureau or recognised recruiting agents will get the reward.

The reward was announced to curb the activities of illegal recruiting agents who often make false promises and put workers into difficulties in foreign countries.

"The Sri Lankan government cannot halt the activities of illegal foreign employment recruiting agents by imposing laws and therefore, it has decided to encourage foreign employment through agencies registered with the government by this special allowance scheme" the announcement said.

## 4 guerrillas captured

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 11, (Reuters): Israeli troops captured four guerrillas near the Israeli border in south Lebanon, yesterday, the Army said.

Troops spotted the guerrillas in the central sector of Israel's self-declared south Lebanon security zone and opened fire, seriously wounding one of the gunmen, an Army spokesman said. There were no Israeli injuries.

The spokesman said the guerrillas were carrying small arms, a rocket-propelled grenade launcher and explosive material.

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## Hindus plunge into rivers during solar eclipse

KURUKSHETRA, India, Sept 11, (AP): Hundreds of thousands of Hindu pilgrims plunged into sacred rivers and pools during a solar eclipse today, believing they would be freed of sin and attain salvation, officials said. A 12-year-old boy drowned.

As the moon passed between the earth and sun at 7:45 AM (0215 GMT), worshippers chanted hymns and blew conch shells and 3,000 naked only men entered the sacred pools of San-ni-thi and Brahmasarovar in Kurukshetra. They were followed by an estimated 500,000 men and women, some of them

unclothed.

Many carried coconuts, auspicious symbols for Hindus, and set them in the water. Others gave alms to Hindu priests, who offered prayers to the sun. There is an ancient belief that the sun is in pain during an eclipse and prayers must be offered for its relief.

The scene was repeated, in smaller numbers, at rivers and pools across India.

According to Hindu legend, Kurukshetra was created by the Hindu deity Brahma and was the scene of an ancient battle in which Vishnu, the protector in

the Hindu deity, pleaded for righteousness.

The story is told in the Mahabharata, the epic Hindu poem of 100,000 stanzas, which says: "Salvation is verily his who bathes or gives alms at Kurukshetra at the time of solar eclipse."

The larger pool, Brahmasarovar, has a perimeter of about 3.5 kms (2 miles). San-ni-thi's perimeter is about half the size.

Four steps descend into the pools, which together can accommodate 125,000 people.

Bathers can stand at the bottom of the steps before the pools drop to a depth of about six metres (20 feet).

Thousands of police stood guard and directed traffic in Kurukshetra, a town of 25,000 people some 150 kms (90 miles) north of New Delhi. Divers and lifeguards kept watch over the bathers, but could not save the 12-year-old boy from drowning, authorities said.

The streets of the town were lined with beggars who, mindful of the Mahabharata's dictum that pilgrims should give alms, waited with outstretched hands.

## KUWAIT ... GULF

# Cabinet approves funds for peace-keeping force

THE Kuwaiti government yesterday approved its financial share in the United Nations international force monitoring the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq.

In its bi-weekly session, the Kuwaiti cabinet made the decision in accordance with its continuous efforts to ensure stability and security in the Arabian Gulf region.

However, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed did not reveal the amount of the share, nor did he explain how the Kuwaiti money will be paid.

Geographically situated between Iran and Iraq which have been at war for the last eight

years, Kuwait has been active in securing an end to the bloody conflict which resulted in the death of over a million people from both countries.

**Legislation**  
On another issue, the cabinet yesterday approved legislation concerning reorganisation of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and the setting up of a portfolio at Kuwait Industrial Bank for supporting the new agricultural policies.

According to Al Rashed, the cabinet, which was presided over by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, will submit the legislation to the Amir Diwan for final approval.

Al Rashed said the ministers were familiarised with the content of three letters sent to HH the Amir from three presidents and the head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

**Briefed**  
The first letter was from Acting Sudanese President Idris Banna, the second from Iranian President Ali Khamenei and the third was from French President Francois Mitterrand.

During the meeting, members of the cabinet briefed the council on the latest developments in their fields. They also reported on high-level conferences recently attended by them or their deputies.

## Physicians' Week begins

THE Minister of Education, Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri, opened the ninth annual Physicians' Week, which is patronised by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

The week was organised by the Medical Students' League at the Faculty of Medicine.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Undersecretary of Public Health, Dr Nael Al Naqih, senior officials at Kuwait University and the Faculty of Medicine, the West German Ambassador in Kuwait and a large number of university students.

**Standards**  
Al Nouri praised the activities of the week and went on to say that health standards affect development policies being adopted by the state in housing, social, educational and economic fields.

He also stressed the importance of physicians and students of medicine following the latest medical developments and said that the Faculty of Medicine and its students can play active roles in studying health problems in Kuwait.

The minister then opened the medical exhibition which contains medical books, bulletins and the latest medical equipment. A number of seminars will be held during the week which will focus on medical and scientific issues.



Minister of Education, Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri, during the opening of the exhibition.

## Women drivers warned against wearing veils

WOMEN should not cover their faces with veils while driving their cars. Any violation of this rule will be reported to the authorities, according to Colonel Ahmed Al Mihouri, director of Motorways Department at the General Traffic Administration.

Discussing other department concerns, Al Mihouri said radar is now being used to help traffic policemen apprehend speeders.

With radar equipment, 50 per cent of speeders on motorways

are apprehended, he said. He also said the department plans to import more sophisticated radar equipment.

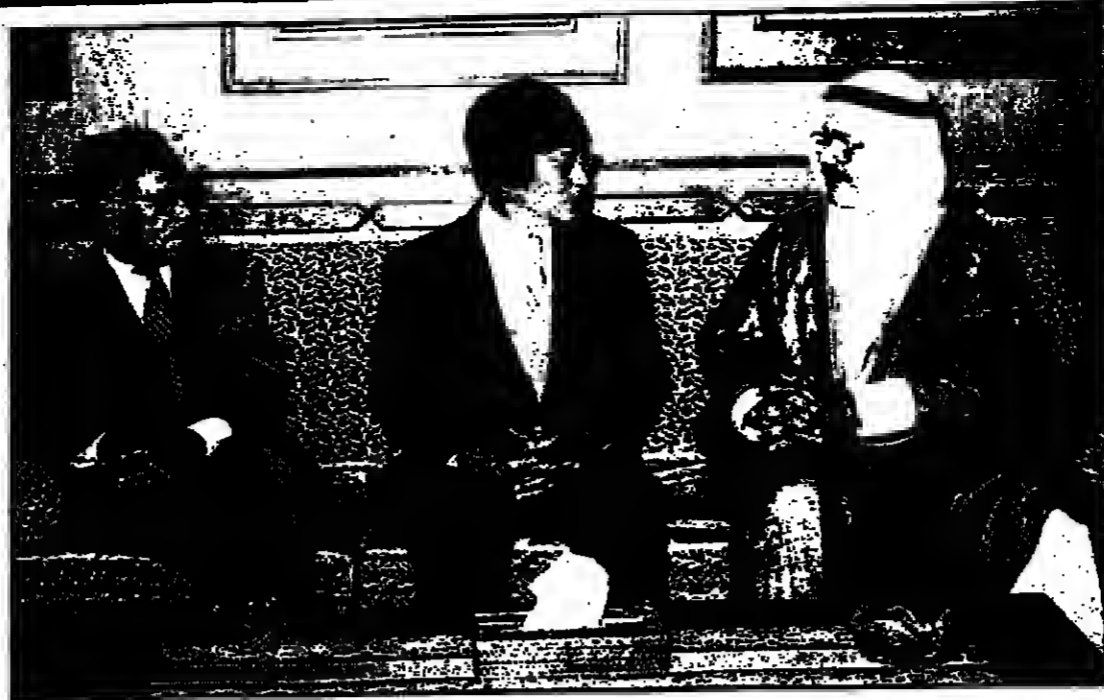
The department is particularly concerned about teenagers who do not have driving licences and who gather after midnight to race on the motorways.

**Racing**  
Officials are concerned for the safety of these youths and those of pedestrians. The state has

provided a specialised club where racing is legally permitted, Al Mihouri said.

He warned the public against crossing motorways and urged them to use the pedestrian bridges.

The Ministry of Interior has written to the Ministry of Public Health to provide a specialised ambulance and first-aid personnel to help victims of accidents at motorways, he said.



Bhutan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lyonpo Dawa Tsering, centre, talks with Kuwait's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaime, right.

## Bhutan minister arrives in Kuwait

BHUTAN'S Minister of Foreign Affairs Lyonpo Dawa Tsering arrived here yesterday on an official four-day visit.

In an arrival statement to KUNA, the Bhutani official hailed the cordial relationship between Kuwait and Bhutan.

"We have developed very close friendly and co-operative ties with Kuwait during the past six years," he said, indicating that the two countries have many common interests.

His current visit to Kuwait is the third of its kind.

Tsering said he is looking forward to renewing and boosting contacts with senior Kuwaiti officials.

He pointed out that his country has been receiving substantial financial and technical assistance from the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development.

**Meet**  
The Bhutani minister is scheduled to meet with HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

During his stay, Tsering will also meet with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaime and Labour and Social Affairs Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammad.

Al Osaime will host a banquet

in honour of the Bhutani guest.

The Bhutani chief diplomat will meet Tuesday with officials of the Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development.

He was received at the airport by Al Osaime, director of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Ministry Ahmed Al Ayoub and the Bhutani Ambassador to Kuwait Sangay Dorji.

**Finance**  
Bhutan established its first consulate in the Arab world in Kuwait in September 1983. The decision to establish a Kuwaiti diplomatic mission in Bhutan was made when HH the Amir of Kuwait met with the king of Bhutan during the Non-aligned summit conference in India in March 1983.

The Kuwaiti Fund for Economic Development is helping to finance several projects in Bhutan, Kuwait and the kingdom of Bhutan signed the first loan agreement worth KD2.7 million on March 16, 1983.

A number of other loan agreements between the two countries were signed after the first agreement was reached.

Kuwait and the kingdom of Bhutan signed an information agreement on June 14, 1987.

The agreement calls for exchanging expertise, information and training courses in addition to an exchange of visits.

## Banks Kuwaitise all senior posts

LOCAL banks have Kuwaitised all senior posts and are encouraging more Kuwaiti graduates to take up banking as a career, according to Yousef Al Houti, director of Savings & Credit Bank.

In the first half of this year the bank granted 1,668 loans valued at KD73.4 million to citizens to build or maintain their houses and approved 1,805 marriage loans worth KD3.6 million.

The bank granted 110,418 dif-

ferent loans till the end of the 1987-88 fiscal year totally valued at KD1,203 million, Al Houti said.

Loan repayments during the first six months amounted to KD18 million.

The bank has stopped granting agricultural loans. However, the government is planning on asking another specialised bank to grant loans to farmers, the official said.

## Warships travel through Suez

SUEZ, Sept 11, (AP): Four US warships have travelled through the Suez Canal on their way to the Gulf as part of a long-planned rotation plan, a canal official said yesterday.

The official, who declined to be named under canal regula-

tions, said three French warships which had been serving in the Gulf entered the canal yesterday on their way to the Mediterranean.

The official identified the four American vessels as the guided missile frigates, Doyle, Aubrey Fitch and Taylor, and the guided missile cruiser Josephus Daniels. He said they passed through the canal and entered the Red Sea Saturday night.

Sources in the Gulf told the AP that these ships are part of a long-planned rotation.

The official also said the French aircraft carrier, Clemenceau, accompanied by the Du Chayla, a destroyer, and the Var, a support ship, entered the canal yesterday and was expected to arrive in the Mediterranean later the same day.

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## Saudi Arabia braces for locust invasion

RIYADH, Sept 11, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia is bracing for its worst invasion of desert locusts in 20 years because floods and lack of cash have hampered efforts to control the pests across the Red Sea in Sudan.

Saudi officials say there is little they can do until the swarms begin crossing the sea in November.

"We are preparing for a very severe invasion," said an official from the Jeddah-based Locust Research Centre. "Swarms are expected to hit both above and below Jeddah."

"To the south of Jeddah, they could come in early November. In the north they could arrive in December, or swarms could arrive at the same time," he added.

He said the infestation is expected to be the most severe in 20-25 years.

The locust problem has already reached plague proportions in Sudan where heavy rains have helped the insects reproduce. Northern Ethiopia is also threatened with disaster from breeding locusts, a United Nations food and agriculture official said on Friday.

Swarms are expected to cross the Red Sea from Sudan as soon as immature locusts, or hoppers, mature.

Saudi officials are hopeful they can control the locusts despite the severity of the anticipated infestation. The officials said they have already made special preparations.

Earlier this year, Saudi Arabia dealt with an invasion of desert locusts in the northwest. At its peak, 19 swarms were reported in farming regions bordering Jordan. Details of damage were not released.

## Planning Institute begins training programme

By Lima Al Khalafawi

THE Arab Planning Institute began its general training programme on planning and development on Saturday.

At the opening, the institute's Director Abdulla Mohamed Ali, pointed out the role of the institute and noted its achievements. He said that the institute's general programme aims to strengthen the understanding of planning and its vital role in developing the Arab world.

**Acquainted**  
The programme, which lasts 20 weeks, includes various topics, such as economics and international relations. Ali said that trainees will be

acquainted with scientific research methods that will help them prepare studies. They will also be introduced to computers and their various applications in planning.

The programme concentrates on quantitative aspects of economic and social statistics and their importance in development plans. Trainees will also be introduced to the origin of statistics, methodologies for comparative studies and productivity charting.

The programme also includes some practical planning experiments in the form of study courses, he said. Trainees from 14 Arab countries are participating in the programme.

The working plan also features 14 specialised short courses each of three to six weeks duration. The most important issues to be discussed are the planning and administration of marine transportation, planning industrial projects and agricultural planning.

The Director-General of the Ports General Authority, Dr Ibrahim Makki, opened the marine planning programme on the same day.

The programme, which lasts until Sept 28, includes studies of financing shipping operations, the principles of administration planning and administration of port operations. Eighteen students from different Arab countries will take part in the programme.



A crowd of more than 500 rushes forward at the start of the 'Race Against Time' (Photo by Raad Qutaila)

## Hundreds brave storm to 'race against time'

By Jadranka Porter

HUNDREDS of enthusiasts in Kuwait yesterday joined millions of people worldwide in the "Race Against Time," a Sport Aid charity event, to raise cash for poor and needy children.

More than 500 people of different nationalities and ages ranging from 3-year-olds to people well into their 60s rushed forward at the blow of the whistle at 6.00 pm. They contributed nearly KD 1,000 to the funds collected worldwide. Donations are still welcome.

Mothers walked with their children in push-chairs while some parents had to give their small children piggy back rides soon after the start of the race. Groups of students ran, walked and cheered.

When a young girl was asked why she ran, said simply: "I am running for Africa."

Ray Jerny, co-ordinator of Kuwait's event, said he was pleased with the response. "We have distributed to participants nearly all of the 600 special num-

bers we had. It was a family event, it was for a worthy cause and it was great fun," said Jerny.

But many participants regretted that sports authorities in Kuwait did not offer their support.

"It took Messilah Beach Hotel and DFL to organise this event. I am disgusted that Kuwait's government did not find it necessary to participate. We have had a war and destruction in the Gulf and one would think that the government would be interested to support a worthy cause like this. This is for the children, for the future generations," said one participant.

**Weather**  
Another competitor said: "This event shows that people in the street are prepared to do something for the deprived children. It is a shame that sports authorities in Kuwait failed to offer their support."

"Compared to Dubai, Kuwait did very little," said another participant. In fact, many participants learnt about the event by watching Dubai TV programmes in Kuwait.

A source close to the organisers said that it was individuals rather than Kuwait's government who failed to show any interest in the event.

Kuwait joined the event rather late. Organisers from Sport Aid '88 in London officially approached Kuwait, but received a less than enthusiastic response.

The cause was when embraced by Ray Jerny, the recreation manager at the Messilah Beach Hotel who had barely a week to organise the event.

It is generally believed that had Jerny not taken interest in Sport Aid '88 Kuwait would have not participated.

Organisers praised the Kuwaiti Television which is preparing a special programme about the race.

The 10-km race, which began at the Messilah Beach Hotel, was run, or walked, simultaneously by millions of people in 128 countries across four continents.

Weather conditions in Kuwait worsened a day before the race and organisers feared that a dust

storm which continued yesterday may have put off some people from joining the race.

Meanwhile, London-based organisers said the largest sport's charity event ever mounted was set to break all records in raising money for the world's deprived children.

**Rise**  
Sport Aid '88 organisers yesterday afternoon said 26 million people around the world signed up to take part in the 10-kilometre "fun-run" events, but that the total number participating could rise as high as 50 million.

Organisers said hopes were high that the race would easily exceed the 24 million pounds raised in 1986 in a similar event.

Some 100,000 people assembled in Hyde Park, Central London, for the main UK charity run.

Some 100,000 people from Islamic countries took part in the event, with Dubai being among the most prominent among the Arab world participants. It was estimated that 25,000 people in Dubai ran the "Race Against Time."

Dubai's singers and musicians who performed in a Dubai TV studio were linked via satellite to London where a massive open-air rock concert was held as part of a show transmitted around the world. Some 1.5 billion people were expected to watch the broadcast.

Scores of showbiz and sports celebrities joined the race which can help save the lives of children from impoverished countries.

## Saudis to issue new passports

BEGINNING Monday, Saudi Arabia will issue new passports to Saudi citizens, according to the director-general of Saudi Arabia Passports Department, Major-General Fahed Al Shareef.

The new passport will have 48 pages, be 125 mm by 88 mm and be green in colour. It will be valid for five years.

Current passports will remain valid until expiry, Al Shareef added.

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- Transferable residence

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Qualification: Diploma in Civil Engg. or Architecture

Experience:

- a) 10 years in detailing roads and infrastructure works and preparing shop drawings.
- b) Should be familiar with the particular requirements of the relevant authorities in Kuwait.
- c) He must be able to read, write and converse fluently in English.

### CONCRETE & CULVERT PIPE FOREMAN

Qualification: (Desirable) Diploma in Civil Engg.

Experience:

- a) 10 years' working experience in the construction of roads, drainage water works, concrete and culvert pipe works in Kuwait or under similar conditions. Should have organised and handled at least 75 workers during some period of his experience.

For further information and interview, please contact 2405235-6-7





It's not in the mind

# Migraine: taken seriously at last

By Lidia Wasowicz

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — No longer derided as neurotic hypochondriacs, headache sufferers are coming out of the closet. With them are emerging new theories and treatments that may lessen the pain for sufferers.

New scientific data on the agonizing "throbbing," "burning" or "bursting" in the skull, behind the eyes or on the side of the head are prompting doctors to focus on therapies that go beyond a painkiller prescription, which may actually worsen the condition.

Increasingly, physicians are even recommending steps toward headache prevention with doses of such drugs as those commonly used for heart problems, depression and arthritis.

With evidence pointing to biological causes rooted in the complex chemistry of the brain, headaches are finally beginning to be perceived as a genuine disease.

"Medical science historically believes that which we don't understand is psychological. We used to think of epileptics as crazy people," said Dr. Joel Saper, director of the Michigan Headache and Neurological Institute, the first such centre in the United States.

"Now, we have reached somewhat of a revolutionary time in headache research. We are going through an evolution of knowledge and are rethinking our entire attitude toward headache, which is beginning to be seen as a serious illness."

## Control

Doctors now can control constant headaches and/or their accompanying constellation of symptoms in up to 90 per cent of patients, but there still is no cure for the chronic disease, said Saper.

The search for a cure is hampered by difficulties inherent in attempts to study brain function and an ailment as subjective as pain, which cannot be measured like, say, blood pressure.

"If we suspect liver problems, we draw blood and run a series of tests," Saper said. "But if something goes awry with a neurotransmitter (a chemical in the brain), we have no good test to determine exactly what the matter is."

In addition, there is no 'animal model,' like the mice used in cancer research, for studying the physiologic mechanisms underlying headaches.

Although the exact cause of chronic headaches remains a mystery, studies have disclosed the importance of heredity. Nearly 88 per cent of migraine sufferers share the disorder with at least one member of their family.

Saper said a person's sex also plays a role. In children ages 9 to 12, boys and girls have an equal number of headaches, but 12 years later — between ages 21 and 24 — women comprise 80 per cent of the victims.

"We now know estrogen has a direct impact on certain brain centres and blood vessels and

that hormonal milestones such as menstruation, pregnancy, use of oral contraceptives, menopause all have direct influence on migraine headaches in women who are genetically predisposed to get them," Saper said.

More than a dozen other triggers of chronic headaches have been identified, including stress, alcohol, such foods as bacon, chicken livers, Chinese food, chocolate, herring, aged cheese, coffee or tea which contain headache-inducing chemicals, environmental pollutants, smoking, head infections and injuries, and even sleeping late on weekends.

Researchers have found migraines can set off a variety of symptoms, including weakness, numbness, difficulty in speaking, visual abnormalities, blood pressure elevation or decrease, changes in the balance of body fluids, pain in the abdomen, arms or legs, dizziness and thinking disturbances.

"We have uncovered new

and important neurotransmitters and how they work together to turn on or off pain signals," Saper said.

"One important new piece of information is that many of the people who suffer an occasional migraine during their youth will develop daily headaches later in life. Migraine appears to go through an evolution in many people and can become a progressive disease that worsens over time."

Until recently, researchers divided chronic headaches into specific categories with different treatments: tension headaches, named for muscle contractions in response to stress, and migraine or vascular headache, presumed to be triggered by changes in blood flow but recent studies indicate most patients share both aspects of headache.

## Important

Although blood vessels and muscles are still considered important, they are no longer seen as the original cause of pain. Instead, changes or disturbances in brain signals may be the main culprits.

Saper and some other researchers believe an excess or deficiency of brain chemicals — including norepinephrine, serotonin, prostaglandins and endorphins — plays a part.

"These brain disturbances appear to link up with physiological changes outside the brain in the blood vessels and nerve networks to create circuitry that we think is the process by which migraine occurs," Saper said.

The multiple triggers and uncertain underlying causes can make treatment decisions difficult. The solution may be as simple as taking the patient off alcohol or cigarettes, changing his diet or starting relaxation exercises.

For the harder cases, drugs remain the major weapon.

Saper warns against taking any pain reliever more than twice a week.

"We know now too much



## Hormones link to migraine

By Jill Sherman

RESULTS of research confirming links between hormonal changes and migraine during the onset of menstruation, which could lead to improved treatment, are to be presented to the Migraine Trust International Symposium in London soon.

The research, undertaken by Dr. Frank Clifford Rose, from the Princess Margaret Migraine Clinic at Charing Cross Hospital, central London, shows that female sex hormones can influence migraine attacks. The researchers are said to have found that a premenstrual fall in oestrogen levels can initiate migraines. The administration of oestrogen can delay attacks.

The study could lead to a breakthrough in treatment for women who suffer migraine attacks in the first two days of their periods. Already in France women are given percutaneous oestradiol, and oestrogen gel that can be absorbed through the skin.

However, migraine experts say that many other factors could trigger an attack.

"While a drop in oestrogen could trigger an attack at the onset of menstruation this will often come with another trigger such as lack of food, stress, alcohol consumption," Dr. Joseph Blau, a consultant neurologist at the National Hospital, central London, said.

Dr. Blau said it was very difficult to distinguish menstrual migraine from other types of migraine. "Some migraine attacks in women are hormone related. In some it is a triggering mechanism, but this is not always the case."

Headaches have at last been classified under 13 distinct headings, each with subsections. The basic classifications are:

1. **Migraine:** episodic attacks of throbbing head pain lasting for about a day. Treatment only with preventive drugs as described on the left.

2. **Tension-type:** start at the back of the head with a sensation of stiffness and may feel as if an iron band is gripping the head. Can be chronic, unlike episodic migraine. Respond well to tricyclic drugs which are anti-depressants.

3. **Cluster:** said to be more painful than migraines. Occur in clusters, lasting six weeks to three months, usually once a day — often waking the sufferer in the middle of the night. Six

times more frequent in men than women. Easily treated with ergotamines. Another type requires lithium.

4. **Miscellaneous:** including the three types of "sex headache." First, and most serious is an aneurism, which can be ruptured during orgasm when blood pressure shoots up — and prove fatal. "Nelson Rockefeller may have had one," Clifford Rose says. Second, the benign orgasmic headache, which occurs more frequently in men than women and often in migraine sufferers and happens at the moment of orgasm. Third, a headache before orgasm. "Can be very disconcerting," Clifford Rose says, "although not serious." All respond well to aspirin-type painkillers.

5. **Traumatic:** result of injury.

No treatment. Improves as the injury heals.

6. **Vascular:** due to constriction in the arteries, blood clots, stroke. Temporal arthritis can be the cause of painful headaches in the over-55s with a history of rheumatic aches. If not treated this can lead to blindness because it is an inflammation of the arteries, including those to the eyes. Responds well to steroids.

7. **Raised pressure:** from tumours, meningitis. May be accompanied by vomiting, and be worse when coughing, sneezing. Different treatments.

8. **Drug induced:** includes the "hol dog headache" — from eating meat cured nitrates, "Chinese restaurant syndrome," from monosodium glutamate, and hangovers.

Treatment: abstinence.

9. **Infectious disease induced:** viral, bacterial, AIDS, septicemia. Treatments depend on cause.

10. **Induced by metabolic disorders:** such as hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar), high altitude.

11. **Referred headaches:** symptomatic pain "referred" from other parts of the body. The cause must be located and treated.

12. **Neuralgias:** pain in the nerves, which may be precipitated by the cold. Responds well to treatment with tegretol.

13. **Non-classifiable:** all the rest of the vague twinges that most of us experience.

# Single-injection cancer treatment goes on trial

CLINICAL trials are just starting in Britain with a new single-injection cancer treatment that has already saved lives in two seemingly hopeless cases of brain and spine tumours.

Doctors at the London-based Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) say these successes may not only lead to treatment of cancers in the fluid and thin membrane surrounding the brain and spinal cord, but could also supplement or replace conventional radiotherapy.

The trials follow a pilot study of 15 patients with various cancers which was carried out by the ICRF at the United Kingdom Institute of Child Health in London, and at the Frenchay Hospital in Bristol, southwest England. Of the 15, the fund says two brain tumour patients for whom there was no hope are alive and well today, and six other patients have been given longer lives of good quality.

One of those saved was an 18-year-old youth who was walking unsteadily and had become impotent as a result of

cancer of the spinal cord following treatment for a brain tumour. But after a single injection nine months ago he is now fit and well, working as a car mechanic and has regained his sex drive.

Another patient, a Dutch woman in her 30s, was sent to Britain by cancer specialists in Amsterdam because they could do no more for her. She originally had an advanced ovarian cancer and then developed tumour nodules all the way down her spine.

After two years she was almost unable to walk and had difficulty in controlling her bladder. But again, after an injection by the ICRF researchers, she is back home, and nine months later is able to ski, ride her bicycle and play squash.

In the full clinical trials now following up the pilot study, sufferers of medulloblastoma, a form of brain tumour affecting about 100 children and young adults every year in Britain, will take part. Consultant neurosurgeon Hugh

Coakham explained: "Standard treatment for these patients is surgery followed by radiotherapy. Some are also given drug treatment."

"But many patients reach a stage where there is nothing to offer because they have received the maximum amount of conventional therapy tolerable. This was the position of the patients in our pilot study."

The new treatment uses monoclonal antibodies, popularly called "magic bullets." These agents, based on natural mouse antibodies, are designed and made in the laboratory to home in on cancer cells and stick to them.

Cell-killing radioactive iodine is attached to the antibodies, which are then used as single injection into the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Because these "bullets" go straight to the cancer cells there are very few side effects. External radiation, by contrast, not only irradiates the tumour but also the rest of the brain, which can damage intellectual function.



In the London laboratory of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Dr John Kenshead uses the magnets that draw out harmful cancer cells.

The antibody therapy is also moving to clinical trial as a treatment for tumours growing in the thin membrane covering the brain and spinal cord, and to deal with the cancer cells that are released and float in the fluid that surrounds it. The researchers plan to exploit the idea further with a new pilot study on children who have leukaemia.

This appears to be another promising area as the form of cancer involved nearly always concerns the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Again the new therapy will be used only after the normal radiotherapy and drugs have failed to arrest the disease.

John Kenshead, head of the

ICRF oncology laboratory at the Institute of Child Health commented: "As with all possible new approaches to cancer treatment, there was great initial excitement about monoclonal antibodies, but our current experience tells us we cannot use them to deal with large, solid tumours."

## Protein key to thrombosis

RESEARCH by four doctors from the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service in Edinburgh and Scotland's Aberdeen University has led to the isolation of a protein believed to play a significant role in the development of thrombosis.

The investigation, which was funded by the British Heart Foundation and the Scottish Home and Health Department, suggests that a high plasma concentration of the protein PAI-1, which is found in platelets and plasma as well as cells lining the blood vessels, may increase the risk of thrombosis. An anti-serum prepared from cell-cultured PAI-1 is to be used to find out if this is so.

The British Heart Foundation has now provided a further \$30,000 backing for the work and this will be used to investigate the role played by the protein in regulating the process by which clots are removed from the circulation.

# Fish oil may help prevent heart attacks

By Paul Reecer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oil from cold water fish, shown by several studies to help prevent heart attacks, may work its magic by retarding a growth protein that promotes clogged arteries, a researcher says.

Paul L. Fox of the Cleveland Clinic Research Institute said recently that test-tube experiments showed that oil extracted from the flesh of fish that live in cold water decreases levels of a protein called the platelet-derived growth factor.

Reducing this protein, Fox said, suppresses the growth of smooth muscle cells in arteries and, thus, helps stem the blood-vessel narrowing that can lead to a heart attack.

But Fox said the finding does not mean that people should start taking fish-oil pills as a heart attack preventative. More study needs to be done before there is proof that such dietary supplements can be effective, he said.

Several studies, including research among Greenland eskimos and fishermen in Japan and Holland, have shown that a diet rich in fish may be responsible for the low incidence of heart disease among those groups. Researchers previously have suggested that the reason fish diets are beneficial is that the flesh of cold water fish, such as cod, halibut and tuna, contains an oil that is rich in a particular type of fatty acid.

But Fox said researchers still are not sure precisely how the oil works to prevent heart attack.

Some researchers have suggested that the oils reduce the

blood levels of cholesterol and triglyceride, both of which play a role in the narrowing of arteries. Others suggest that the fish oil changes the clotting rate in the blood, which helps prevent blockages.

Fox said he and his collaborator, Paul E. DiCorleto, have found still another way in which fish oil may fight heart disease.

In test tube experiments, Fox said his team has found that the fish oil reduces by 50 to 85 per cent the production of the platelet-derived growth factor protein. He said similar tests using peanut oil had no effect on the growth factor production, while safflower oil was less than 10 per cent as effective.

Factor He said the growth factor protein normally stimulates the growth of smooth muscle cells, which line the outside of arteries. Fox said the growth of these muscle cells is thought to promote the lesions in the arteries that can lead to blockages, the basic problem in the heart disease process called atherosclerosis.

He said all three theories need to be tested in humans or animals. Only then, said Fox, will it be known exactly how fish oil works to reduce heart attack, and in what form the oil should be taken into the human diet.

The oil from cold water fish is more fluid than oil from beef, and is less likely to produce the solid molecules that can clog arteries, said Fox. Fish living in deep, cold water, he said, are thought to have developed this oil in their bodies to help them function in the chill depths where they live.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

## 'BEZOAR' A BALL-LIKE MASS FOUND IN THE STOMACH

QUESTION: It came up in a discussion of trivia over dinner, and my friend insisted that it was a medical condition, while I think it's a type of fur piece. Your answer will settle the bet. What's a "bezoar"?

ANSWER: A curious thing to discuss over dinner! And sorry, but your friend wins. A bezoar is a curious, ball-like, accumulation or concretion of hair or vegetable matter found in the stomach. It is rare in humans, more common in animals. In humans, delayed emptying of the stomach may be one of the factors in its formation, and it is more likely in people who suffer stomach complications of diabetes.

Balls made of shellac or bubble gum have been seen, but most often they are composed of hair, wool, oranges or persimmons. Generally they cause no symptoms and, when discovered on X-rays, may be diagnosed mistakenly as tumours. In contrast, it's a mistake to assume that a long, ornamental "boa" that women wear, or other material, which is derived from the Latin word "boa," or "bova," which means a "water serpent," or "bova," which means a "water serpent."

published a report about the use of hyperbaric oxygen in relation to the treatment of multiple sclerosis. The mail has been voluminous, but not all letters were votes in favour of the inclusion of this information in my column. While there were statements of effectivity, and even a letter from a hospital who offered such treatment, the statement of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, as forwarded to me by the Wisconsin chapter, deserves attention.

It reads as follows: "Following the anecdotal reports in the literature and through the media, hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) received attention as a possible symptomatic treatment for multiple sclerosis. In order to better evaluate whether HBO affects multiple sclerosis beneficially the National Multiple Sclerosis Society funded a controlled scientific trial with a small number of patients, the results of which were published in 1983. Because the data suggested some moderate improvement, further controlled studies were initiated in several medical centres around the world. Three studies were presented at a major neurology meeting. The results of these studies indicate that positive effects claimed for this therapy

are probably due to a placebo response, with an occasional temporary improvement in bladder function seen in some cases. The physicians involved have concluded that adequate testing has been done with hyperbaric oxygen, and that the findings of functional change are at best, minimal."

Because of the minimal benefit demonstrated, the high cost and the lack of third-party reimbursement, the medical advisory board of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society does not recommend the use of HBO as a treatment for multiple sclerosis.

Its letter stated: "Information provided by the society is based upon professional advice, published experience and expert opinion. Information provided in response to questions does not constitute therapeutic recommendations or prescriptions. The National Multiple Sclerosis Foundation recommends that all questions and information be discussed with a personal physician."

It would seem that for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society at least, the case for HBO is closed.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

## ANDY CAPP



By Smith

## WOMEN

By James Roberts

IT hardly seems possible that another drama could befall superstar Elizabeth Taylor...

Yet the 56-year-old actress, who has already won battles against booze, drugs and food and emerged looking happier, more beautiful and slimmer than ever, is now being racked by a new heartache. She is facing a delicate spine operation that could leave her a cripple.

And this time there seems no alternative to surgery for the movie queen who has suffered from a history of back problems. The final straw came when she fled in agony from the set of her latest film Zeffirelli's *Young Toscanini*, in which she plays an opera singer.

And, to make matters worse, the movie which was Liz's first big screen role for seven years, hit trouble too.

It was withdrawn from the Venice film festival in protest at the controversial *The Last Temptation of Christ* being included.

But, as Liz convalesces in the exclusive St John's Hospital in Santa Monica, California, where she booked in under the name of Beth Warner, her mind is firmly on the operation she must have, to save her from becoming disabled.

A friend of the seven-times married star says: "Liz knows this is her last chance to sort out her back trouble. She has been warned that even after an operation she stands a 10 per cent chance of having to live in a wheelchair."

## Crisis

Liz's latest crisis began with a fall at a Fourth of July party thrown by millionaire Adnan Khashoggi, in Marbella, Spain. She was flown to Ibiza for treatment, then went to Rome to shoot scenes for her new movie, where she spent much of the time between takes in a wheelchair.

After several days filming, Liz was flown to Los Angeles in the private jet of her latest boyfriend Malcolm Forbes. Liz's back problems began in 1944 when, as a child star, she fell from a horse, crushing discs in her spine during the filming of *National Velvet*.

Liz's tragedy comes just four years after she entered the Betty Ford clinic determined to put the horror of too much bourbon and barbiturates behind her

## Liz Taylor in crisis again

Hollywood superstar Elizabeth Taylor has been dogged by drama all her life. Now, looking slimmer and more beautiful than ever, her career is being threatened yet again...this time by a spine operation that could leave her in a wheelchair.



Elizabeth Taylor: her latest crisis began with a fall she suffered at a party thrown by Adnan Khashoggi in Spain

and recreate herself as the world's most glamorous star.

The fat and bloated body has been shed and was revealed — a svelte and voluptuous Elizabeth. Once again she is a woman whose entrance can stop conversation and turn every eye.

But it has not been easy. "There's no question that I would have killed myself if I had gone on," she says now. "Drink gave me Dutch courage because I was shy, but I'd got to the point where it was pure self-destruction. I realised I had to do something, not just for my family, but for myself."

When she was admitted to the Californian clinic, Liz was finally able to face her problem and introduced herself at meetings as "Elizabeth...an addict and an alcoholic."

For several months Liz then

began to replace booze and pills with food. She explains: "At the centre they tell you just to take one thing at a time. They don't encourage you to stop smoking or to diet while you are there, because you need 100 per cent co-operation for other goals."

"When you stop drinking your metabolism goes through a terrific change. When I got out, I'd lost 11 pounds in blot but started putting on just plain, solid fat from all the sweet things I was eating, particularly chocolate."

Avoided  
"I avoided looking in the mirror for so long that I allowed myself to become really obese — and I didn't see it. After about three months I felt so good inside, such a sense of peace, that I did take a long look at myself and decided to try and make my exterior match

my interior."

Besides her recent traumas, Liz has undergone more personal dramas than most people experience in a lifetime — six husbands (she remarried Richard Burton), widowhood, infidelity, betrayals and the death of close friends. She has managed to bounce back to the top so often that it's easy to believe she must be made from rubber.

The worst of her troubles stemmed from the failure of her six year marriage to Virginian senator John Warner. She had wanted this to be the last and most successful of her marriages. She used her passion to get him elected. Yet at the end was expected to do nothing more than the traditional Washington wife, sitting at home giving dinner parties for political VIPs.

But Liz has never been content to live in somebody else's shadow.

"There just wasn't room to live for me," she says. "Politics is a very hard mistress to fight. She was a lady I couldn't cope with."

Now Liz says defiantly: "I'm much more at peace with myself. I've realised there's a wonderful world out there for me."

Liz has said she only really loved two of her husbands — her second, producer Mike Todd, who was killed in a plane crash only 13 months after their wedding — and actor Richard Burton.

She confesses: "After Mike, I thought I'd never love again. Then along came Richard and I realised that my love hadn't died up after all." She married Burton in 1964 — after the disastrous marriage to Eddie Fisher.

When Liz re-emerged looking as slim and beautiful as ever her career, for a time, was put on the back burner. She immersed herself in other causes — the campaign against AIDS for example, of which she is national chairwoman in America.

She says: "Most people think I became involved with the Foundation because of Rock Hudson, but I was in the chair at the first benefit dinner, seven

months before I knew Rock was sick."

"I got involved because I was so angry. The attitude that people had — the bigotry! Nobody was doing anything and that incensed me. I don't think people can think about it enough until after a cure is found."

## Appear

Liz continues to appear all over the USA at benefits for the victims of the deadly disease and she indirectly gives huge sums of money to the campaign. She recently endorsed a new perfume, *Passio*, and although she receives a royalty on every bottle sold, a proportion of the profits also goes into the funds for AIDS research.

Since the actress has expressed her desire to work she has, not surprisingly, been inundated with offers. The American soaps are clamouring to snap her up — each offering a huge package (\$700,000, is the highest figure rumoured, for 10 episodes of *Dynasty*).

Liz also believes she has at last worked out what went wrong with her marriages. "Marriage fails because of the lack of communication," she says. "When people stop talking and listening, that's when the trouble starts."

Liz certainly has enough men who would like to lead her up the aisle again. One of the top candidates is Hollywood smoothie George Hamilton.

Elizabeth says they have a wonderful time together. "George has one of the best senses of humour around," she says. "With everything she's been through, she's still wonderfully naive."

## Intriguing

Most intriguing of all is Elizabeth's relationship with whacky pop star Michael Jackson. He sends her roses, love letters and poems and telephones her several times a day. "I adore him," Elizabeth says. "He's the sweetest person in the whole world."

He believes she's the only woman he's ever met who truly understands his problems because, like him, she's been a star since childhood.

Lionel Ritchie reckons



Liz Taylor who has already won battles against booze, drugs and food is now racked by back trouble.

Michael's sanity was saved by his relationship with Elizabeth. "They both know about isolation and loneliness," he says.

Neil Simon, the award-winning playwright, is another suitor. And, although Liz broke off her engagement to Mexican lawyer Victor Luna, they remain friends. But the most recent contender is Malcolm Forbes, 70, the publishing tycoon whom Elizabeth has been dating for the last year.

Another of Liz's more recent friendships is with singer Barry Manilow. "She's the most feminine person I've ever met," he says. "You really feel like a man older than I am she still turns me on."

But whoever marries Liz will be marrying a woman of untold wealth. She lives in the Kirkhey Mansion in Los Angeles' Bel Air, the most expensive suburb in the world.

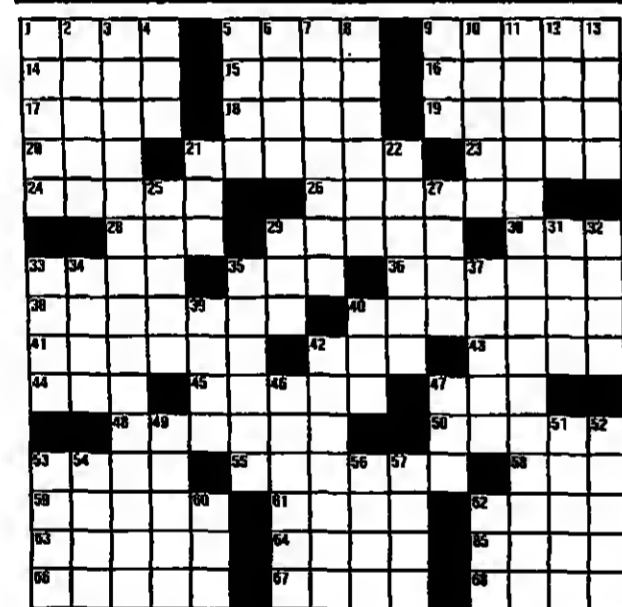
Her £26 million house is crammed full with works of art, with a Renoir, a Van Gogh, a Degas and several Utrillos in the sitting room and an Augustus John hanging over the washbasin in the powder room.

The man of her choice is not likely to be short of money of course, or diamonds.



Doctors say that even after an operation, Taylor stands a 10 per cent chance of having to live in a wheelchair.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- weevil
  - Pocket bread
  - Mislay
  - Canal of song
  - Entry
  - Earthy color
  - brave
  - Famous Roman
  - Barracks' bossa, familiarity
  - Trinket
  - Dreaded
  - Celebrity
  - Bobbin
  - Iranian port
  - Holy man's title
  - Mites
  - Gymnastic feat
  - Opposed
  - Dutch commune
  - Cell it a day
  - Observes
  - Diary
  - Tied
  - Ham partner
  - S-shaped molding
  - Bulgarian coin
  - Eya shade
  - Hebrew letter
  - Franch cathedral city
  - Playwright's play
  - Proficient
  - Ruler in Persia
  - Above, in poetry
  - Lily genus
  - Danish-American reformer
  - Choir voice
  - Go on all fours
  - Biblical king
  - Drover's concern
  - Up to now
  - Remove, in printing
  - Suit to —
- DOWN**
- Triumphs over
  - Ship's deck
  - Spring bloom
  - Grassland
  - Conifer
  - Virginia willow
  - Patio
  - One-celled animal
  - Angles
  - Citrus center
  - Modest and shy person
  - Hance
  - Observed
  - 10 Down
  - stata: Abbr.
  - Clarence of the courts
  - Haarlem hunter
  - God, in Paris
  - Mad. Ave. creations
  - Dies —
  - Soccer graat
  - First family member
  - Snow field
  - Whirlpools
  - Ancient region of Troy
  - Son of Jacob
  - Jolt
  - Unfriendly
  - Trapped
  - Spigot
  - Free-for-all
  - Raison —
  - 10 Down
  - Wear away
  - Medieval fabric
  - Excludes
  - Tehran coin
  - Tennis great
  - 60 Likely
  - Cry of surprise

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BDDR CAJUN ETC  
ELLE ARENA RHEA  
ADDS BOWIE REEL  
TUMDR SET FOSSE  
SEALEVEL LALO  
NUDE IVAN USE  
STATOR NAME NDG  
CDNE DITTO ADDA  
ORO MASH UNLDAO  
TNT ANTE ROOF  
HART COSTUMED  
CLERK FRA SAUNA  
HOST ALOST TSAR  
OREE NEWER TIRE  
PEAL DENSE AGED

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you

hold: ♠AQ74 ♥J8 ♦A87 ♣A654

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♥ Pass

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you

hold: ♠Q92 ♥Q10873 ♦8762 ♣5

Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as

South you hold: ♠KQ1052 ♥AJ32 ♦95 ♣82

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ DBL ?

What action do you take?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you

hold: ♠93 ♥KQ87 ♦A954 ♣Q103

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♥ DBL ?

What action do you take?

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold: ♠J93 ♥K85 ♦72 ♣A8763

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South

1 ♦ DBL ?

What action do you take?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you

hold: ♠AKQ76 ♥KQ9 ♦K3 ♣K102

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?



"I can't face the next thousand years without my cup of coffee."



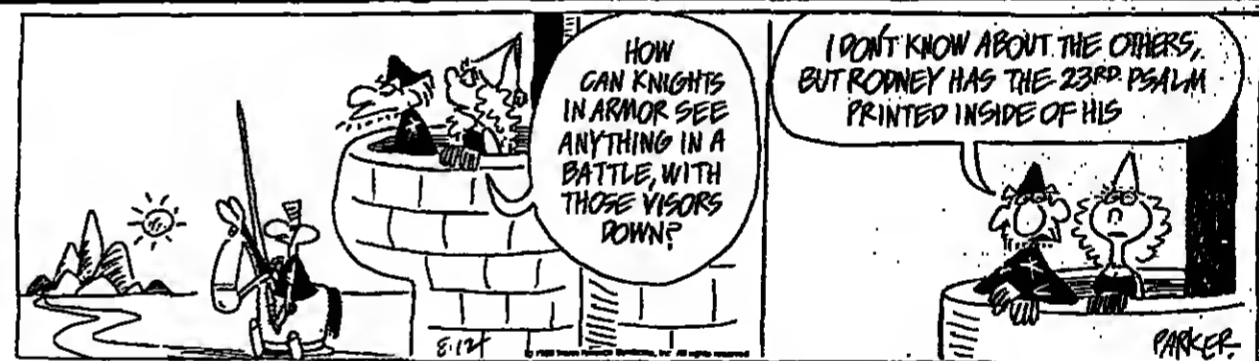
"I know the car is new George, but do you have to wash underneath as well?"



"British Telecom have sent you a get-well card. They hope your laryngitis clears up."

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

There might be some problems this morning, but from the afternoon onwards things will proceed much more smoothly. You will be able to avail yourself of a good opportunity. Do not allow yourself to be dissuaded. Be cordial.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Not everything will be to your liking but you will know how to make the best of things. Make sure you do not allow yourself to get into too much of a muddle. There is no time to waste. Be firm.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have to choose between two equally attractive alternatives: you cannot have it both ways. You should not expect everyone to agree with you. Keep calm when dealing with a rather nervous person. Be decisive.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will find it easier to make up your mind. You should not allow work to erode your personal life. You will meet someone much to your liking. Be lenient.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You would be wrong to try to have everything your own way. You will be able to get a lot done but only if you do not permit yourself to be distracted. Keep away from secondary matters just now. Be reasonable. Be generous.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

Everything will go more smoothly but you must still be on your guard. You would be wrong to rely on luck to get you out of trouble although you will certainly be lucky. Avoid exceeding speed limits. Be fair.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

This is going to be one of those days. You should beware of doing anything you might come to regret. Avoid trying to do things by force. Be tactful.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will find yourself more easily irritated. And you must take care not to annoy others. You will be able to do something to enlarge your cultural horizons. Be respectful.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will be subject to some ups and downs and should try to use a little more willpower. Make sure you get enough but none too energetic exercise. Also beware of eating more than is good for you. Be generous.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

You should try not to get into any violent arguments. You will be able to do something you have long wished to do. Make sure you get all the sleep you need. Be moderate.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will have some good ideas but they might not all be practicable. You should try not to allow your emotions to conflict with your reason. Keep your head high. Be abstemious.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will be able to do something to make up for lost time. You must do all you can to avoid giving rise to confusion. You should concentrate on essentials leaving the details until later. Be prompt.

# Hong Kong cracks down on counterfeit

Tourists coming to Hong Kong from other counterfeit capitals, such as Bangkok, Taipei and Seoul, should think twice before loading themselves with fakes. Hong Kong customs officials are looking for caches considered large enough to cross the line from personal use to commercial gain.

**HONG KONG:** From Rolex watches to Mickey Mouse, South-east Asia is cracking down on counterfeiters and, for the first time, the tourists who keep them in business.

The counterfeit clampdown is a determined bid to boost Asia's image in the eyes of Western trading partners, who say the thriving fakes business is cutting into both the reputation and export figures of the real thing.

Seoul, Bangkok, Singapore, Taipei and Hong Kong vie as the fake capitals of the world.

In any of these cities, business at hawkers' stalls on sidewalks is far brisker than in the plush boutiques like Chanel and Christian Dior.

A careful Hong Kong shopper may pay \$45 for one variety of fake Rolex watch, compared with \$1,900 for the real thing. A fake Louis Vuitton handbag goes for \$51 on the street, one-tenth of the cost of the genuine article in a central Hong Kong shop.

Fake Rolex watches, Gucci wallets and Louis Vuitton bags are among the most sought-after items, but the list goes on to include Reebok sneakers, Lacoste polo shirts, Cabbage Patch dolls — and anything with Mickey Mouse on it.

The fakes may be used to amuse — or perhaps even deceive — friends back at home, but tourists are having to look harder to find them. At least one airport has full-time customs officials looking for caches considered large enough to cross the line from personal use to commercial gain.

H.Y. Tong, director of Hong Kong's Customs Investigation, said customs checks for counterfeit goods had been tightened six months ago.

"Hong Kong has an international image to protect," Tong said. "If we get branded as a major counterfeit centre, our trading partners will impose sanctions on us."

Most fakes found by customs



Watches, designer bags and wallets, dolls and even items bearing Mickey Mouse logos are being found in several Asian countries.

officials are clothing or watches, but counterfeiters also produce medicine, and spare parts for well-known makes of cars, Tong said.

He said tourists coming to Hong Kong from other counterfeit capitals, such as Bangkok, Taipei and Seoul, should think twice before loading themselves with fakes.

"If someone brings one, two or three counterfeit pieces through customs, we want to be reasonable."

"But people touring Asia sometimes come to Hong Kong with 10, 20 pieces. Then we have to take action. Even if we know their reason is genuine — Christmas gifts or what have you — we have to detain those tourists, question them and cause them unnecessary trouble."

But some prestigious manufacturers take their own precautions. Paris-based Hermes makes, among other things, sought-after and widely copied — silk ties.

"Hermes is very strict," said a spokesman in Hong Kong whose company produces ties for

the French fashion house. "They insist on very precise counts. If they order 100 pieces, you don't give them 95 and say that five ties didn't work out. They want 100 pieces no matter what."

Eleanor Lee, the general manager of Chanel's boutique division in Hong Kong, said: "Whenever we find fake Chanel, we just have to buy one piece and get the receipt as evidence. Our attorney does the rest. The shop has to let us know how many pieces they bought and who they bought them from."

"Usually they co-operate because we prosecute if they don't."

In Seoul, the Union des Fabricants of France has a branch with the specific task of protecting popular European trademarks.

The US-based Walt Disney Inc., keepers of the lucrative Mickey Mouse logo, issued a strict warning to counterfeiters in the region, as well as Chinese, to stop using the cartoon without going through proper legal channels.

France zealously guards its

reputation as one of the world's premier producers of classy fashion by confiscating fakes at its end.

"If someone comes through customs carrying a fake Vuitton bag, we let them go through," a French customs official said. "If they have 10, we take them."

Taiwan, reputedly home to the best fake Rolexes, has cracked down hard over the past four years, organising regular police sweeps and completely overhauling its copyright laws.

Picked But some say pure economic factors, such as the rising value of the Taiwan dollar and spiralling labour costs, have strangled Taiwan's dollar industry, not tougher laws.

"Taiwan manufacturers are slowly being driven out of the counterfeit market," said Geoffrey Harris, a Taipei-based private investigator who specialises in copyright cases.

He said counterfeit watch-makers have been shifting entire factories to Thailand where the currency is stable, labour is

among the cheapest in Asia, and laws are relatively lax.

Indonesia and the Philippines have also picked up Taiwan's fakes business in everything from shoes to spare car parts.

Harris said it was unlikely that Taiwan would follow Hong Kong's lead and confiscate fakes at customs posts.

"Authorities here don't see anything wrong with bringing in fakes for personal use," he said.

Customs officials in Singapore normally only check passenger baggage for drugs, but strict copyright laws and constant vigilance by authorities have ended the once thriving market in fake goods.

Shops in areas such as Change Alley and the Far East Plaza are regularly raided by customs inspectors posing as tourists.

Singapore's International Federation of Phonogram and Videogram Producers said pirated video or audio cassette tapes have all but disappeared since a stringent copyright law, laying down a \$50,000 fine or a five-year jail term, was introduced a year ago.

# Male models fight for places in Paris shows

By Michela Wong

PARIS, (Reuters): Male models from all over the world are gathering in Paris with one thought in mind — winning a prized place on the fashion catwalks and being spotted by an international talent scout.

For while a moment of glory at the ready-to-wear shows pays badly in modelling terms, a young unknown parading a suit by Yves Saint Laurent or Jean-Paul Gaultier could be launching a million-dollar career.

"These collections are a unique opportunity for new models to meet famous designers and be seen by talent-spotters from Milan, New York and London," says Patrick Normandin, in charge of male models at Glamour, a leading Paris modelling agency.

"Models may be paid more elsewhere but this is where they make their reputations and build their careers. A few of the boys who appear at the collections will end up being the highest-paid models of the year."

The shows are all about prestige, not money.

Top French, Japanese, Italian and Spanish designers are trying to sell their latest ideas during five days of ready-to-wear previews.

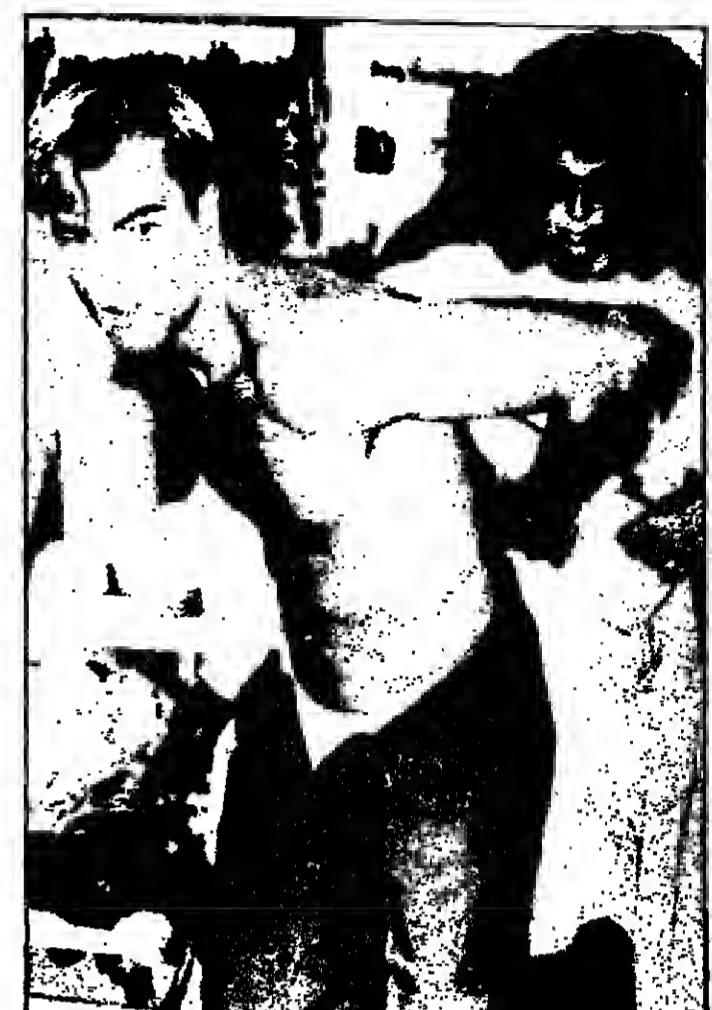
Before the September collections and the autumn and winter shows in February, Normandin tours the world, choosing promising young men he sponsors to come to Paris, where they fight for a spot.

The lucky ones will earn between \$400-480 per show, not much when compared to the \$20,000-30,000 dollars a model who appears in a good promotion film can expect to rake in.

Easy Outside Normandin's office on a chic avenue running parallel to the Champs Elysees, excited models gather and disperse, returning from auditions and comparing notes with colleagues.

Randall Krebs, a 26-year-old model who boasts the athletic frame and angular jaw of the all-American man, is already well set up this year, with places in the classical Christian Dior and Lanvin shows.

Winning a place was not easy, he admits. "The competition is getting tougher and tougher and the models are getting younger and younger. Often now you have to queue a



A male model makes a swift clothes change helped by his dresser during French designer Charles Jourdan's ready-to-wear fashion show in Paris recently.

couple of hours for an audition — that never used to happen before."

Krebs, who started modelling two years ago in order to pay for an eye operation, makes between four and eight lightning clothes changes during each show, usually helped by a dresser.

"It's the most hectic week of the year — there's nothing to compare with it," says Krebs.

A 20-year-old British colleague, James Gough, has not been so lucky. A former office worker who entered the fashion scene only four months ago, Gough is still waiting for a place in the collections.

"You don't know until the last day whether or not you've got a spot. It's not very hopeful for me. They seem to be looking for guys at these shows and really I'm too short," says the six-foot (1.83 meter) cockney model.

Until last year Normandin

recruited 80-90 per cent of his models in the United States, because he is convinced that American men relate best to both designers and customers.

"It's a question of temperament and character. Americans are much more at ease with their own bodies. They're more extrovert than Europeans, proud to show off their physique — there's an element of narcissism there."

European models are improving but still have a lot to learn, says Normandin. As for his own compatriots, he feels the national character does not lead itself to the job: "The French are very introverted and easily intimidated."

In the frenzied days before the collections Normandin is fully occupied smoothing his models' ruffled egos and reassuring nervous clients.

Twice a year we are swept up in a sort of fury, a tempest... it's complete madness."

# Laughter: the best medicine of all

By Janet Bailey

LAUGHTER lifts our spirits, puts our problems in perspective, connects us to others and probably improves our health.

In his best-selling book *Anatomy of an Illness*, author Norman Cousins told how he rid himself of a serious illness with a treatment that included doses of *Candid Camera* and old Marx Brothers movies.

Some researchers believe a hearty laugh may release endorphins, the brain's own pain-killing chemicals, and that it helps to strengthen the immune system.

Laughter provides a physical workout, too. William Fry, M.D., associate clinical professor of psychiatry at Stanford University Medical School, compares laughter to jogging in terms of its effect on heart rate and muscle condition, although it would take a very funny series of events to keep you laughing as long and hard as the average jogger jogs.

Good Still, we don't need science to tell us that laughing feels good, and most of us know we don't laugh nearly enough. Although it's hard to see the humour in everything, we can learn to take ourselves and our problems less seriously and maybe lengthen our lives at the same time. Here are some suggestions from the experts.

Remember that everyone can have a sense of humour. Maybe you can't remember a joke or tell it well if you do recall it, but that doesn't mean you can't be amusing with friends. "We're all born with the potential for developing a sense of humour," says Dr Fry. "It's part of our genetic makeup. Even if most of your playful spirit has been hammered out of you by the time you've reached adulthood, it can be revived."

"When you talk to people about humour, they usually think of jokes and comedy," says C.W. Metcalf, president of

Although it's hard to see the humour in everything, we can learn to take ourselves and our problems less seriously and maybe lengthen our lives at the same time. Here are some suggestions from the experts.

a company in Fort Collins, Colorado, that trains business people in how to use humour.

"But less than two per cent of us are capable of remembering and telling jokes."

Humour is much broader than that. It's a set of skills that anyone can learn to develop. It's a sense of perspective, of being able to look at things in an offbeat way, it's a sense of joy in being alive.

Don't just sit there — participate. "Everybody is exposed to humour," says Harvey Mindess, Ph.D., director of the graduate psychology programme at Antioch University in Marina del Rey, California, "but we usually just sit back and enjoy it without thinking of how to make others laugh."

Don't settle for letting Woody Allen make all the jokes. Imagine yourself in the role of amusing other people. If I'm watching Bill Cosby, I might consider how that episode has played itself out in my family, or how I could act like Cosby in a similar situation.

Think about how you could turn an awkward incident into an entertaining story. If some minor disaster comes along, like a car breakdown on a rainy night, think of it as a situation comedy. You'll be amazed at how quickly that puts things in perspective. And it may well make a funny story later.

Recognise what makes you laugh and put more of it in your life. Does your taste run to Laurel and Hardy? Bugs Bunny? Sunday funnies? Which TV sitcoms do you like? Which writers — Andy Rooney, Erma Bombeck, Mark Twain? Once you've

figured out what amuses you most, Dr Fry suggests, start a humour library.

Collect your favourite books, cartoons, videocassettes, films, audiotapes and just funny gadgets. Then, when you're having trouble seeing the bright side, head for your books and tapes for a quick pick-me-up.

Practice injecting laughter into "serious" situations. "We're happy because we laugh, not the other way around," says Annette Goodheart, Ph.D., a psychotherapist in Santa Barbara, California. "The usual way of describing the process is that you have a sense of humour, so you laugh, and that changes your attitude. I start by laughing, which changes my attitude immediately. It's easy to fake laughter — your diaphragm doesn't distinguish between that and the real thing. It's like starting a car engine. The physical motion triggers real laughter."

If you're having trouble seeing the humour in a situation, Goodheart says, describe it in a deliberately light way: "The I.R.S. is auditing me, tee-hee." The ridiculousness of that sentence tickles the funny bone, helping you to change the way you look at it.

You might try adopting the paradoxical approach. When you can't seem to laugh about a problem, try the opposite. Tell yourself this is no laughing matter and nothing can make you laugh about it. Usually the harder we try not to laugh, the more irresistible the urge becomes.

Another technique is to carry your anxiety to its most ludicrous extreme, until the situation you imagine seems so

ridiculous you can't help but find it funny. Let's say you're agonizing over a mistake you made at work. Picture the entire company going bankrupt, with you and the chairman reduced to selling apples on the street corner, all because of your error. Chances are this isn't really that bad and the imaginary scene puts this in perspective.

"Humourists do this all the time — take upsetting events and talk about them with enough exaggeration that people find them funny," says Hope Mihalap, a humourist and professional speaker from Norfolk, Virginia.

Avoid self-criticism by poking fun at your flaws. "When you get down on yourself," explains Ray DiGiuseppe, director of training and research at New York's Institute for Rational-Emotive Therapy, "you become more depressed — and the more depressed you are, the harder it is to do something about your problem. But if you can laugh about your troubles, you're more likely to think of a way to deal with them."

DiGiuseppe and his wife have made a joke out of his tendency to work long hours. "When she wants to sit down and have a talk, I kid her that she'll have to call my secretary to make an appointment. Making fun of my workaholicism reminds us I'm aware of the problem."

Use humour to lighten up your relationships. By easing tension, laughter can pave the way for better communication in almost any relationship, from home to the workplace. When Goodheart's married clients face an angry impasse, for instance,

she asks them to bring up a key word or phrase they've agreed upon beforehand about the situation that made them laugh. "One couple remembered the day they made love outdoors — and the lawn chair folded up on them! They chose the words 'lawn chair' and agreed that whenever either one of them evoked that phrase, their argument would stop," Goodheart says. "It always made them laugh and broke the tension and helped them resolve the problem."

Hope Mihalap's family adopts a foreign accent when touchy subjects arise. "My husband is Russian, my father is Greek, and I'm a Southerner," she says. "So ever since our kids were small, we've found a lot of humour in the way people talk. If they are getting on each other's nerves, they'll start talking in heavy Russian accents. Even if one of them knows there's a command there, it's easier to take when it's said in a funny way."

Joking with someone around whom you're usually serious can add a new dimension to the relationship. "This is an assignment I give my students," says Harvey Mindess. "I tell them to think about it beforehand, because it isn't always appropriate. But the ones who try it report remarkable results. You can really break through to a new level of intimacy, openness and relaxation with another person this way."

Rediscover silliness; rediscover toys. We can learn from children who haven't yet begun to censor their mirth. "I'm a firm believer in props — toys, posters, anything that makes us laugh," says Allen Klein, a professional speaker on humour in San Francisco. "Everyone in my workshops gets a clown nose, and I tell them to keep props handy. When I'm in a traffic jam, I take out the jar of bubble soap I keep in the car, open the window and blow bubbles. Then I look around and see smiling faces, so



In his best-selling book *Anatomy of an Illness*, author Norman Cousins told how he rid himself of a serious illness with a treatment that included doses of old Marx Brothers films.

I know that I'm relieving other people's stress too."

C.W. Metcalf recommends going into a dime-store photo booth, making the silliest faces you can think of and carrying those pictures around with you. "When you notice yourself getting uptight," he says, "pull out the photos. They'll give you a laugh and remind you that life can be funny too."

When you really can't laugh, don't force it. Sometimes nothing can help you see the bright side of situation. When that happens, you may simply need to ride it out. You may have to get out your grief or your anger first, before you can begin to think about looking for the funny side. Laughter can help — but not all the time.

Don't confuse humour with ridicule. It's one thing to get people laughing; it's another to laugh at them. Teasing uses laughter to control others, to disguise critical remarks and avoid responsibility for your true feelings. "Can't you take a joke?" may be one of the most destructive questions in the language. "Often people who tease others have little insight into what they're really doing," says Quinton Wilkes, Ph.D., a psychotherapist in New York City. "If you feel demeaned or under attack, tell the other person how you feel." Anyone can laugh at another's expense, but a true sense of humour is the ability to laugh at yourself.

Don't think you have to be serious to be responsible. Many people feel that being a

responsible adult doesn't go along with laughing at yourself," says Mindess. "They assume that to be funny degrades their dignity."

Laughter is risky — but it opens up new ways of looking at a world that's full of fear and cynicism. And that openness and creativity are what we need most of all. "We're facing an environment that's changing between the time we go to bed and the time we get up in the morning," says Metcalf. "The only way to cope with that is to pay attention to the things that make it worth being here. It's easy to figure out what's not working, but the problems of the world are going to be solved by the people who love life here. And what feeds that love better than laughter?"





# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### For Rent

APDHIYA, 2 floors of villa, fully furnished, comprising 4 bedrooms, 1 living room, 2 kitchens including a garden and space for car parking. Tel. 2456018, mornings, 2561101, evenings. (AT1-43846-3)

BAYAN, Area 3, House 24. One floor with carpet and curtain. Tel. 3984086, mornings: 2640626, evenings. (AT1-43844-3)

### Available

NEAR Tunia Street and 4th Ring Road. Accommodation for a Mangalorean bachelor to share with another bachelor. Rent KD 25. Tel. Mr. Robert, 4738522 ext. 277, 8.30 am - 1.30 pm. (AT3-43879-3)

FAHAHEEL / Mangaf junction. Accommodation in a CAC flat for a family, working girls or bachelors to share with a small Indian Catholic family. Tel. Jerry, 4730733, 7.30 am - 5 pm & 3715490 after 5.30 pm. (AT3-43869-3)

KUWAIT City near the Sheraton Hotel. Western oriented person wanted for independent furnished accommodation in a traditional villa. All facilities available. Rent KD120, all inclusive. Tel. 2418017, after 8 pm. (AT1-43849-3)

SALMIYA, near Farah Centre. One room in a 2-bedroom flat with tele. facilities for a Muslim couple or a small family. Rent KD50 with water and electricity. Tel. 5719948, after 2.30 pm. (AT2-43861-3)

FARWANIYA, opp UTC. Accommodation in a flat for one lady to share with another working lady. Tel. 3262888 ext. 2418, 2087, 7 am - 1 pm. (AT2-43866-3)

### Wanted

FURNISHED or semi-furnished, one or two bedroom flat preferably with tele. required from 1st October. Tel. 4813357, 9033051. (AT1-43841-3)

SHARING accommodation required for a small Muslim family, preferably in Salmiya. Tel. 5632379. (AT3-43873-2)

### PETS

PERSIAN cats, two young males, gentle, trained, very affectionate. KD50 each, needs a loving home. Owner has allergy problems. Tel. 3715168. (AT1-43831-3)

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IKEA sofa, two seater and two chairs in immaculate condition. Tel. 5638380, 2-7 pm. (AT2-43862-3)

SOFA SET, one big, two small, two month's old only. Tel. 5339213, 3-5 pm. (AT3-43890-2)

### Computers

COMMODORE 128, 1570 disk drive, 1901 monitor, 400 programmes and games. Commodore VIC20, data cassette and programmes for children. Tel. Mr. Ali, 2418044, mornings, 2464455 evenings. (AT2-43860-3)

### Miscellaneous

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APPLE IIC with monitor, external disc drive and telephone modem. Beach Buggy, red, in very good condition. Tel. 4847671, 4845059, 4843903. (AT3-43888-3)

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5 PCS sofa, Ikea bedroom furniture, dining-room set, fridge, plants, toys, video tapes and household items for sale. Tel. Mr. Ibrahim, 5640103, after 6 pm. (AT3-43881-2)

COMPLETE contents of 1/2 villa for sale, includes TV, AC units, wardrobes, microwave, chairs, beds etc. Tel. Mr. Martin, 5333561, evening, 4745916, daytime. (AT3-43877-3)

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### Cars

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CHEVROLET Caprice Classic, '85 model, light green, fully automatic in excellent condition. KD2,800, cash, negotiable. Tel. 2642787. (AT2-43870-3)

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# MARKET PLACE

NISSAN Patrol, 1984, 4 wheel drive, 5 speed, manual, with AC, radio, registered upto May '89. KD1700. Tel. Lewis, 4844640, 1-4.30 pm. (AT1-43836-3)

DODGE Le Baron, 1981 model, beige, automatic, good AC, in excellent condition, KD450, ono. Tel. Ahmed, 4740351, 1-4 pm, 9-12 pm. (AT2-43855-3)

TOYOTA Cressida, '82 model, fully automatic, 4-cylinder, dark blue, insured upto 30th August, 1989. In good condition. KD830 for company, KD46 by monthly installments. Tel. 5744136. (AT2-43867-2)

TOYOTA Celica, 1982 model, black, automatic, good AC, 2 doors, recently overhauled, in excellent condition. KD750 ono. Tel. Ahmed, 4740351, 1-4 pm, 9-12 pm. (AT2-43854-3)

NISSAN Stanza, '84 model, silver colour, red interior, fully automatic. One owner. In good condition. KD1000 or KD 39 by monthly installments. Tel. 5385094. (AT2-43875-3)

CHEVROLET Blazer 1979, 4 wheel drive, KD 700 or best offer. Tel. 3717691, 12 noon - 7 pm. (AT3-43868-3)

MERCEDES 450 SLC 1979, black, sunroof, AM, FM Stereo, new tyres, new paint, T.V. KD 2,700 or best offer. Tel. 3717691, 12 noon - 7 pm. (AT3-43868-3)

### LOST

PASSPORT No. X 794342 in the name of Sayed Gulam Mir Sayed Sadik. Finder please inform the Indian Embassy. (AT2-43874-5)

PASSPORT No. E000723 in the name of Francisco Inacio Fernandes, Indian. Finder please telephone 4843988 ext. 2916 or inform the Indian Embassy. (AT3-43885-3)

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GOWER HITS ESSEX FOR UNBEATEN 143

# Cowdrey puts Kent on top

LONDON, Sept 11, (Reuters): Graham Cowdrey, the youngest member of the cricketing family who have served Kent with distinction for nearly 40 years, helped to sustain his team's English County Championship challenge with a hard-hitting 80 out yesterday.

Cowdrey, whose father Colin led Kent and England and whose elder brother Chris is the county's current captain, spurred leaders Kent to 367 for six against Middlesex — 77 ahead — at the close of the second day of the four-day match.



**Trio**

Kent need victory to be virtually certain of taking the title ahead of second-placed Worcestershire and Essex, who are third. The trio are playing their penultimate games in the competition.

Worcestershire ceded the second day against Gloucestershire at Bristol leading by 146 with all their second innings wickets in hand. At Chelmsford, Leicestershire were 218 for four in reply to Essex's massive first innings of 592 for eight declared.

Kent, 26 without loss overnight in reply to Middlesex's 290, built a solid position through opener Mark Benson (81) and former England batsman Chris Tavare (78), while Chris Cowdrey struck a robust 37.

Graham Cowdrey overcame

**Cowdrey: unbeaten 80**

the anguish of running out Tavare and hammered a six and 11 fours in his innings, sharing an unfinished seventh wicket stand of 90 with paceman Chris Penn in 21 overs.

Left-arm spinner Richard Illingworth put Worcestershire on top against Gloucestershire with five for 69 — his first five-wicket haul since April.

He captured three wickets in one over as the home side collapsed to 247 for eight, and when Greame Hick bowled David Lawrence six runs later, Gloucestershire still needed two more runs to avoid the follow-on.

The last pair, Australian Terry Alderman and captain David Graveney, prevented that indignity.

**Gower: brilliant innings**

Gloucestershire's total of 262 — 142 behind — owed much to Phil Bainbridge's fighting 124, made in 254 minutes and including 14 boundaries.

England batsman David Gower stroked a superb 143 not out as Leicestershire replied strongly to Essex's huge total, to which Nasser Hussain contributed an unbeaten 165.

Gower, who survived ebullience on 77 and 132, completed his second century of the season out of 164 in 118 deliveries, and it costained a six and 13 fours.

Hussain, 35 overnight, hit 21 fours and a six in total in his maiden first-class century and added 149 in 24 overs for the eighth wicket with David East, who lashed 66 from 74 balls.

Nottinghamshire's ex-England batsman Derek Randall struck an unbeaten 202 in 192 deliveries against Derbyshire at Trent Bridge.

He put on 297 in an unbroken fourth wicket stand with Mike Newell, who was 95 not out at close, when Nottinghamshire were 387 for three in reply to Derbyshire's 347 all out.

**Scores**

At Scarborough: Yorkshire 320 in 104 overs (R. Roberts 62, F. Stephenson five for 91), Northamptonshire 218 for three in 78 overs (G. Cook 97 not out, A. Lamb 76).

At Chelmsford: Essex 592 for eight declared in 144 overs (N. Hussain 165 not out, D. East 66, P. Willey four for 133), Leicestershire 218 for four in 69 overs (D. Cowdrey 143 not out).

At Bristol: Worcestershire 404 in 141.3 overs (P. Neale 102 not out, D. Graveney eight for 127 and four for 69 on wicket, Gloucestershire 262 in 90.1 overs (P. Bainbridge 124, J. Lloyd 47, R. Illingworth five for 69).

At Trent Bridge: Derbyshire 347 in 122 overs (R. Roberts 62, F. Stephenson five for 91), Nottinghamshire 387 for three in 99 overs (D. Randall 202 not out, M. Newell 95 not out, C. Broad 48).

At Lord's: Middlesex 290 in 91.3 overs (P. Neale 102 not out, D. Graveney eight for 127 and four for 69 on wicket, Gloucestershire 262 in 90.1 overs (P. Bainbridge 124, J. Lloyd 47, R. Illingworth five for 69).

At Hove: Surrey 553 in 132 overs (G. Clifton 158, M. Fothergill 74, K. Medley 45 not out, L. Greig 42), Sussex 144 for four in 50 overs (A. Green 68).

At Edgbaston: Somerset 372 in 138.2 overs (G. Smith three for 56, Warrick 65 not out, A. Kallabharan 47).

At Cardiff: Glamorgan 259 in 104 overs and 187 for four (M. Maynard 71 not out, C. Butler 56, Hampshire 126 in 53.1 overs (D. Turner 40 not out, J. Thomas four for 67).



Police restrain a soccer fan during a scuffle at White Hart Lane while Arsenal were playing Tottenham. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Taunted Gascoigne may have the last laugh

LONDON, Sept 11, (Reuters): Paul Gascoigne, the millio-dollar midfielder taunted by soccer fans because he was overweight, may have the last laugh by winning his first England cap this week as manager Bobby Robson begins preparations for the 1990 World Cup.

Gascoigne, transferred from Newcastle to Tottenham for £2 million (\$3.44 million) in the close season, enhanced his England claims with an eye-catching goal on his home debut for Tottenham on Saturday — watched by Robson.

Named in England's squad for a friendly against Denmark at Wembley on Wednesday, Gascoigne scored against Arsenal after losing his right boot on the edge of the box. He ran on and steered the ball home with his stockinged foot, despite which Arsenal won the First Division clash 3-2.

Yet it was a new look Gascoigne who emerged in front of a capacity 34,000 crowd at Tottenham's White Hart Lane ground, seeking out only to start justifying his British record transfer fee but also to convince Robson of his worth.

Gascoigne is now trimmed to his best competitive condition of 173 pounds (78.4 kg), and Tottenham manager Terry Venables said: "He lost over a stone (six kg) in weight through training and diet."

"However, he lost it a bit too fast and got weak. Now he's regained his strength, is improving every day, and is back to his old self."

Of Gascoigne's chances of a first England cap on Wednesday, Venables said: "I think he is good enough and ready."

The Tottenham newcomer had to share the stage with three other England young midfield candidates — Arsenal trio Paul Davies, David Rocastle and Michael Thomas.

The trio are also in Robson's squad to face Denmark — the first stage of the England manager's attempt to rebuild the team that was left in tatters after the European championship finals in West Germany last June.

**College Football**

## UCLA brush aside Nebraska

NEW YORK, Sept 11, (AP): Troy Aikman threw three touchdown passes, including two to Charles Arbuckle, as fifth-ranked UCLA rode a 28-point first quarter to a 41-28 thumping of second-ranked Nebraska to a college football headliner yesterday.

The victory was the 100th for Terry Donahue since he became UCLA's head football coach in 1976 and avenged three losses to the Cornhuskers in the last five years. Nebraska had scored 42 points in each of those games.

In another clash of ranked teams, Reggie He kicked the last of a school-record four field goals with 1:11 left to give No. 13 Notre Dame a 19-17 victory over No. 9 Michigan.

The only ranked team to lose to an unranked team was No. 15 Michigan State, beaten 17-13 by Rutgers.

In other games involving the top ten, it was No. 3 Clemson 23, Furman 3; No. 4 Oklahoma 23, North Carolina 0; No. 6 Southern California 24, Stanford 20; No. 7 Auburn 28, Kentucky 10; No. 8 Georgia 38, Texas Christian 10; and No. 10 Florida State 49, Southern Mississippi 13.

In the second tier, it was No. 12 West Virginia 45, Fullerton 10; No. 14 Alabama 37, Temple 0; No. 16 South Carolina 38, Western Carolina 0; No. 17 Iowa 45, Kansas St. 10; No. 18 Penn State 42, Virginia 14; and No. 20 Washington 20, Purdue 6.

**UCLA 41, Nebraska 28**

Aikman, who completed 13 of 22 passes for 205 yards with one interception, teamed up with Arbuckle on a 57-yard play after just 2:21 of play to get UCLA started. Arbuckle had five receptions for 100 yards, all in the first half.

**Notre Dame 19, Michigan 17**

Ho, a 135-pound junior from Hawaii, kicked field goals of 31, 38, 26 before connecting with the game-winning at the end of a 10-play, 71-yard drive. Michigan, which led 17-16 after Mike Gillette's 49-yard field goal with 5:39 to play, had a final shot to win it, but Gillette missed a 48-yarder on the last play of the game.

**Rutgers 17, Michigan St. 13**

Scott Erney completed 25 of 36 passes for 239 yards and two touchdowns and Doug Kokoskie had a key fumble recovery as Rutgers stunned the defending big ten and Rose Bowl champions.

**Clemson 23, Furman 3**

Tailback Terry Allen scored two touchdowns and freshman Chris Gardocki kicked three field goals for Clemson, 2-0.

**Oklahoma 23, N. Carolina 0**

The quarterback tandem of Jamelle Hollieway and Charles Thompson paced Oklahoma's wishbone attack to 391 yards on the ground, and the two combined to complete three of six passes for 72 yards.

**USC 24, Stanford 20**

Rodney Peete, coming back strongly after an ineffective first half, rallied the sixth-ranked Trojans to victory by throwing 10 yards to flanker John Jackson with 1:19 left to play.

**Auburn 28, Kentucky 10**

Auburn's James Joseph ran for 110 yards and two touchdowns, but the seventh-ranked Tigers had to hold off a second-half Kentucky rally.

**Georgia 38, TCU 10**

Georgia's run-oriented offense surprised TCU, 0-1, with 145 passing yards in the second quarter. Georgia, 2-0, led 7-3 before opening up in the second period as quarterback Wayne Johnson and Greg Talley combined to complete seven of eight passes.

**Florida St. 49, S. Mississippi 13**

Chip Ferguson passed for three touchdowns, including a 93-yarder to Lawrence Dawsey, as 10th-ranked Florida State came back strongly after its season-opening humiliation against Miami.

**W. Virginia 45, Fullerton 10**

Calvin Phillips caught five passes for 190 yards and Anthony Brown and Uodra Johnson each scored twice for 12th-ranked West Virginia, 2-0.

**Alabama 37, Temple 0**

Bobby Humphrey, showing no apparent side-effects from two serious off-season injuries, ran for 91 yards and scored a touchdown for the 14th-ranked Crimson Tide, 1-0.

**S. Carolina 30, W. Carolina 0**

Mike Dingle, starting his first game, ran for 85 yards and two touchdowns as the Gamecocks overpowered Western Carolina, an NCAA Division I-AA team. South Carolina improved to 2-0 while Western Carolina dropped to 0-2.

**Iowa 45, Kansas St. 10**

Chuck Hartlieb passed for 253 yards and Brad Quast, a 240-pound linebacker, lumbered 94 yards with an interception return to tie an Iowa record and spark the 17th-ranked Hawkeyes.

## Boston increase AL lead

NEW YORK, Sept 11, (AP): Instead of having to worry about his back, Roger Clemens had to worry about a no-hitter.

Clemens came within five outs of a no-hitter yesterday and won for the first time in six starts since July 30, leading first-place Boston past the Cleveland Indians 6-0. Dave Clarke's one-out single in the eighth was the only hit as Clemens pitched the first no-hitter of his career.

Boston increased its lead to 3 1/2 games over Detroit.

"With a no-hitter going, I had to stay with my best pitch," Clemens said. "I didn't want to give up a hit on a slider or some other breaking pitch. The fast-ball to him was up and in. Maybe it was a little too high and not in enough, but I'd throw it right there again. It was a good pitch. He hit a good shot. He jumped on it and missed (the no-hitter) by about 10 yards."

Dwight Evans had four hits, including a double and triple,

and has reached base 11 consecutive times.

**Yankees 9, Tigers 4**

Don Slaught's two-run double sparked a six-run rally in the seventh inning as New York won its third straight and Detroit lost for the 16th time in 19 games, falling 3 1/2 games out. The Tigers largest deficit since June 9.

**Orioles 7, Blue Jays**

Joe Mauer hit a two-run double in a six-run fifth inning and Toronto led 7-1-2 games behind the American League East-leading Boston Red Sox.

**Twins 6, White Sox 5**

Gene Larkin doubled home Kent Hrbek from second base with one out in the 12th inning after Kirby Puckett was thrown out at home trying to score on Hrbek's double.

**Mariners 4, Brewers 0**

Eric Hanson allowed three hits over 7 1/3 innings in his second Major League start and Milwaukee fell 5-1/2 games out of first. Hanson, 1-1, struck out five

## May still has chance of playing in first Test

and walked two before Mike Schooner finished with hitless relief for his 12th save.

**Royals 9, Athletics 4**

Pat Tabler got his seventh hit in eight at-bats with the bases loaded this in Kansas City's four-run second inning. Tabler has 18 runs batted in with the bases loaded this season and is 36-for-63, a .571 average, with 85 RBI when batting with the bases loaded in his career.

**Results**

American League		
Boston	6	Cleveland 0
New York	9	Detroit 4
Minnesota	6	Chicago 5
Baltimore	7	Toronto 4
Kansas City	9	Oakland 4
Seattle	1	Milwaukee 0
Texas	3	California 2
National League		
St. Louis	2	Chicago 3
San Francisco	3	Houston 2
Pittsburgh	5	Philadelphia 1
New York	6	Montreal 0
Los Angeles	5	Cincinnati 0
San Diego	6	Atlanta 2

## May still has chance of playing in first Test

QUETTA, Pakistan, Sept 11, (Reuters): Injured Australian spin bowler Tim May has not been written off for the first Test against Pakistan starting in Karachi on Thursday.

The 24-year-old off-spinner dislocated the little finger on his right spinning hand yesterday, disrupting Australia's Test preparations.

But the damage, sustained when May dived to stop a ball in the match against the Governor of Baluchistan's XI, may not be as severe as was first thought.

## Considered

Coach Bob Simpson said today a decision on whether to ask for a replacement would not be considered until May tried out the hand in the nets tomorrow.

A replacement would only be sought if May was ruled out of the second Test starting in Faisalabad on September 23.

Meanwhile, the Governor's XI was 196 for seven in reply to Australia's first innings of 288 for eight declared in the three-day match which will resume tomorrow.

Today was a rest day to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of Pakistan's founder, Mohammed Ali Jinnah.

## Film on Budd

JOHANNESBURG, Sept 11, (Reuters): South African-born runner Zola Budd has approved plans for a film of her life and her ill-fated attempts to win international acceptance as a British athlete, a local newspaper reported today.

## Scotland and France triumph

VILLENEUVE D'ASCO, France, Sept 11, (Reuters): Scotland and France defeated Italy and Austria in European qualifying matches yesterday for the Intercontinental Hockey Cup.

France, playing a swift, offensive game, secured a 3-0 win over Austria, who ran a futile match that won more whistles from the umpire than goals.

Scotland's impeccable team play gave it a relatively easy 2-1 victory over Italy.

## Danes win speedway final

LONG BEACH, Calif., Sept 11, (Reuters): Hans Nielsen scored 14 points and Jan Pedersen added 12 to lead Denmark to victory in the 29th World Team Cup speedway final yesterday.

The Danes scored 44 points in 20 races to win the Cup for the sixth straight year before 9,000 fans at the Long Beach Veterans Stadium.

**Fielded**

The United States finished second with 32 points while Sweden beat Britain in a four-lap rideoff for third place.

Competing countries fielded teams of four riders each. The riders earned three points for a win, two points for second and one for a third-place finish on the quarter-mile track.

Nielson dropped only one point, losing his final race to Californian Shawn Morao. Pedersen put in a near flawless performance in four rides and then elected to have reserve John Joergensen take his place for the last ride.

Sam Ermolenko led the American team with 13 points while Per Jonsson was the top scorer for Sweden with nine points. Gary Havelock led Britain with eight.

# Al Wazzan satisfied with performance in Bahrain rally

By Gail Seery

"I WAS determined that I would either win or break in the Bahrain BP Jeep Rally," said Arab Times sponsored driver Tareq Al Wazzan, shortly after being forced from the event with a broken axle on Friday. "I knew my car was not as powerful as the others, and that I would therefore have to push much harder."

"On the first stage of the rally I was three seconds slower than Eid Falah, and despite gear shift problems on the second time through the stage, was only 9 seconds behind the leader at the end of the first night."

## Powerful

Wazzan went on to set the second fastest time on the first stage of the following day. "I took the lead till stage 10, and was lengthening it all the time. There were 21 seconds between myself and Abbas at the end."

Even so, Wazzan and co-driver Khaled Khalifa were pleasantly surprised to be at the front of the much more powerful pack. "The car and engine were the same ones I used last year. The engine badly needed rebuilding. I had ordered a new engine but it didn't arrive in time." This year's challenge format was not so accommodating in terms of the points system. Last year the drivers accumulated points from each of the three rallies which composed the series, but this time, only one driver, in this case Abbas Al Mousawi, could go through to the final.

"The challenge only takes the leader to the final, so I had to push. But there were serious han-



Al Mousawi: on his way to victory



Al Hajri: jumps into second place

dling problems after stage five," he added, nursing his badly blistered hands. "The suspension was finished after five stages because I was pushing as fast as I could, and using the full 180 bhp. In the first service of the day the mechanics had no time to change

the shock absorbers, and so the handling was very bad. I took the bend at the wrong angle because of the handling problems, and jumped. Immediately on landing the front axle broke."

"Even so I am happy, because when I entered in this event I was



Al Wazzan: pushing his car to the limit



Eid Falah: ploughs through soft sand

expecting strong competitors from Saudi, Dubai and Qatar, and I knew I was up against the Sonato Pajero and the Mitsubishi Ralliart team, and if I broke, at least I did it while I was leading all of them by 21 seconds. I'm very happy about that, but also

very sad I didn't finish, because I know I would have won."

"At least now I know who is my enemy in terms of the Marlboro Desert Challenge. That is, I know my competition. I know their driving style and techniques, and I know their cars. A

rally is like a war, and it's important that I know who I am up against."

Tareq was driving perfectly with no problems," added Khalifa, renowned as one of the most experienced co-drivers in the region. "We worked very hard. It was the first time I saw Tareq driving the Range Rover like that. He was really pushing the car, because he was so very determined to win."

Mitsubishi team members were happy to admit that they heaved a sigh of relief when Wazzan and Khalifa were forced to withdraw from the event. Mousawi told Wazzan that he too had been very relieved to hear that the Range Rover driver had stopped in mid-stage. Wazzan and Mousawi, the Pajero, had left everybody else behind, and when Wazzan broke, the gap between Mousawi and Eid Falah in second place was apparently uncloseable, without some problem or mistake by the Mitsubishi driver.

## Error

In the end it was only a navigator's error which robbed Falah of a better place. The gap between Falah and Mubarak Al Hajri who took second place was only a little over a minute, and Falah had received a 3 minutes and 20 seconds (20 seconds for each minute) penalty for clocking in early at time control before stage 12.

Although Wazzan distinguished himself as a driver, Falah also impressed, and clearly lacks only experience. The Zayani team did well, and it is splendid to see a local firm making such a large commitment to the future of this sport.

